

UNDERSTANDING THE BARRIERS TO LEARNING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH AUTISM

Duration: 6 months | Delivery: Online | Start date: October 2024



This module supports practitioners to develop their specialist knowledge and understanding of the autistic spectrum which will enable them to support autistic pupils within mainstream educational settings. The module will encourage reflection on how children/young people with autism live in, and experience, the wider world, focusing on how barriers to learning, communication and socialisation can impact on their lives. It will also consider how statutory legislation supports children/young people with autism and provides guidance for professionals and carers responsible for their development and well-being. Learning will be rooted in current and seminal theory/ policy and linked to teaching and learning practice.

Module Overview

- Develop a knowledge and understanding of autism and current theoretical perspectives.
- Develop a critical appreciation of how children/young people with autism experience the world and reflect on ways in which to support them.
- Explore the barriers to communication and socialisation of children/young people with autism and strategies to support their progress.
- Develop a knowledge and understanding of current statutory legislation on autism and reflect on its role in supporting children/young people and their families/carers.
- To critically engage with literature and research which informs an understanding of autism and its impact on children and young people's education.



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Delivery

The module will be delivered on a part-time basis through a fully online approach including:

- Access to Liverpool Hope University's Virtual Learning Environment
- Online webinars and meetings via Zoom
- Online discussion forums
- Access to Liverpool Hope University's Electronic Library
- Guided Reading
- Assessment support via email and zoom.



Delivery will be by **Helen Bucke** (Highly Advanced Specialist Occupational Therapist and ASC Clinician).

Helen has worked for the NHS for the last 30 years and is an Occupational Therapist and ASC clinician/diagnostician.

She is also a lecturer and trainer and is passionate about raising the understanding and acceptance of neurodiversity in services and the wider community. She is the author of the book "Bearing Untold Stories – Life on (and off) the autism spectrum" – publishing as Helen Hughes.

Supported by other Liverpool Hope University Tutors and Guest Speakers.

Assessment

Assessment for the module will involve the completion of academic assignments which will ask you to critically reflect upon the learning outcomes for the module, professional practice and theoretical considerations. Equivalent 5000 words.

Dates and Duration

Starts October 2024 and takes 6 months to complete.

Synchronous delivery will take place via Zoom on Thursdays, 6pm - 8.30pm. There will be 8 synchronous sessions.

3rd October, 10th October, 17th October, 24th October, 7th November, 28th November, 5th December, 12th December 2024.

Entry requirements

First class or second class honours degree in a relevant discipline. Applications from students who hold a degree that is not classified as a first or second class degree (or equivalent), but have appropriate professional experience might be considered.

Professionals starting the module will predominately be working in mainstream state and independent school settings and further education settings. This programme of study is not suitable for professionals working in specialist settings.

Applicants must have a minimum of one year's professional experience in teaching or experience supporting learners of a school age (19 years or under). Consideration may also be made for applicants with appropriate professional educational experience in another phase of education; a letter, on headed paper, from the applicant's line manager stating they have completed an academic year of full or part time professional activity in that institution will be required.

Progression

Participants may undertake a further 30 Credit Masters level module 'Supporting Autistic Children and Young People to Succeed' and gain a Postgraduate Certificate Understanding Autism & Inclusive Learning or may progress onto a full Masters.

Cost

Tuition fees for Home/EU students for 2024/25:

Full Rate: £1,250

Graduate Rate*: £938 (25% discount)

Partner School Rate:** £1,000 (20% discount)

* Graduate - Reduced Fee for students who have obtained a 2.1 or 1st class degree from Liverpool Hope University.

** A Partner School is any school that has an Initial Teacher Education (ITE) partnership arrangement with Liverpool Hope University and who work with our students on providing school placements.

How to apply

To apply or for more information please contact:

Tel: 0151 291 3834

Email: pld@hope.ac.uk

www.hope.ac.uk/pld/educationpld

The PLD Team
Liverpool Hope University
Hope Park
Liverpool
L16 9JD

Participant Feedback

"This course has been immensely important to improve my awareness and understanding of autism, as well as raising awareness and confidence across the body of staff."

"This module has been invaluable in enabling me to think about the theory of working with autistic learners. This has had a really positive impact on my practical support for our autistic learners."

"Massively widened my knowledge base on ASC and allowed me to implement this into my teaching as we are a school that has a high intake of ASC pupils in a secondary school environment and this brings many challenges for them."



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