# Visual Support Strategies for Adults with Autism

This two-day workshop provides practical ideas and techniques to develop visual support strategies. It adopts the key elements set out by the TEACCH Approach and is aimed towards the adult population who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD). It addresses issues of communication, self-management, and Active Support and will offer solutions to difficulties through discussions and demonstrations of actual life examples. The course will show how visual strategies can increase levels of participation, independence and communication for people with ASD who are verbal and non-verbal.

#### DAY I

#### Session 1

#### The Culture of Autism

Consideration of the key issues in ASD that indicate visual support strategies will work.

#### Session 2

#### What are Visual Support Strategies?

This session highlights what constitutes as visual support strategies and discusses the impact of using such strategies when supporting individuals with ASD.

#### Session 3

### Introduction to the Main Elements of the TEACCH Approach

This session introduce the concepts of schedules, visual and physical structure as well as work systems and routines.

#### Session 4

### Using visual support Strategies to assist in Communication,

Identify how visual support strategies can be used to develop systems for the individual with ASD to support the making of choices and requests.

#### Session 5

## How to Create Positive Routines to Promote Independence

This session places emphasis on identifying positive routines and what constitutes as negative routines and how to shape good routines.

#### Session 6

#### **Creating Low Arousal Environments**

This session addresses environmental factors and how they can play a significant role in supporting the individual with ASD.

#### Session 7

#### **Making Sense of Behaviours**

This session gives insight into the possible reasons for some 'difficult' behaviours expressed by individuals with ASD.

#### **DAY 2**

#### Session 1

## Using the Principles of TEACCH in Active Support

Looks at ways in which visual support strategies can be used to support individuals with ASD throughout the day and various situations.

#### Session 2

#### **Creating Visual Structure**

This practical session ensures that the elements to creating visual structure has been considered when teaching independence skills to the person with ASD.

#### Session 3

#### **Constructing Personal Schedules**

A practical session introducing the aspect of designing individualised schedules that offer predictability for the person with ASD.

#### Session 4

### From Theory to Practice -Applying the Approaches

Ways in which visual support strategies can be used to promote independence, encouraging leisure and recreation and focus on education and learning.

#### Session 5

#### Will it Work?

The penultimate session discusses barriers to the approach and gives advice on how to analysis and adapt things when they don't work.

#### Session 6

#### **Discussion and Questions?**

This final session allows for reflection on individual practice and an opportunity to discuss how the approaches may be introduced. Current practices and pressures in the field of supported accommodation have increased the need for comprehensive training for working with service users with autism. Since 1972, Division TEACCH of North Carolina, USA has researched an approach for children and adults that offer clear instruction to promote independence for over 30yrs.

The aim of this course is to raise awareness about the TEACCH approach and how it can be effectively implemented to increase the independence of people with Autism Spectrum Disorders living in supported accommodation. The two consecutive study days will give the theory behind the approach, practical demonstration, videos, workbook, group work and true-life experiences.



# **Booking form**

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**Events date** 

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**Discounted rate** Person with a learning disability or ASD; family carer or enabler; unwaged; small voluntary organisation (ie. an organisation working in Learning Disability field with no more than five paid members of staff).