Autism and Sensory Issues
Dr Luke Beardon,
Senior Lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University

For the attention of:
Derbyshire schools, Support Services, Early Years Settings non-maintained, Voluntary Sector, East Midlands Partnership, Adult Social Services

Please ensure that this information is circulated to all staff concerned
Autism and Sensory Issues - Dr Luke Beardon, Senior Lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University

Course Organiser:
Mark Emly, Senior Adviser for School Improvement and Andrea Higgins, Joint Principal Educational Psychologist

Course Tutors:
Luke Beardon, Senior Lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University

Target Audience:
Derbyshire schools, Support Services, Early Years Settings non-maintained, Voluntary Sector, East Midlands Partnership and Adult Social Services

Course Objectives:
- To achieve an understanding in the theories around sensory processing
- To explore how people with autism might behave as a result of sensory differences
- To look at possible ways of supporting people with autism

Additional Information:
The theory as to how sensory processing might affect people with autism will be explored including all primary senses and sensory systems. Subsequently there will be some explanation as to how individuals with autism might be affected personally by differences in sensory processing, and the impact this may have on behaviour.

Please find attached a pen portrait of Luke Beardon, Senior Lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University

This course will be held on:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Ref</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Time From</th>
<th>Time To</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12550A</td>
<td>Fri 3 July 09</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick</td>
<td>Fri 22 May 09</td>
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Event Arrangements:
The whole day will be led and facilitated by Luke Beardon, Senior Lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University who is an expert in this field

Course Fee: £175.00

Fees are as published unless otherwise stated in the funding arrangement section

Applications should be made as soon as possible:-
Audrey Dew, TEL: (01629) 585820
Email: audrey.dew@derbyshire.gov.uk

Derbyshire Advisory & Inspection Service, John Hadfield House, Centre for School Improvement, Dale Road, Matlock, DE4 3RD.
Dr Luke Beardon – Sheffield Hallam University

Luke has been working for several years in the fields of autism and learning disabilities, in capacities ranging from practitioner to researcher to trainer. He started work specific to autism for The National Autistic Society (NAS) as a Service Co-ordinator assisting in the development of a residential service for young adults with autism. He worked within this service supporting young adults with a range of complex needs, from those with high dependency needs and severe learning disability, to individuals with a diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome; prior to this he worked in the voluntary sector in the learning disability field.

Luke has been involved in the setting up and running of two Asperger Social Groups, both of which are running successfully.

Luke has run a Project developing autism services within a specific Local Authority, and has also been employed by the NAS as Regional Development Officer co-ordinating developments over a larger geographical area. This has given him the background experience to work at a strategic level within Local Authorities to develop good practice in the field of autism. The Project included the development of diagnostic services, day provision, residential provision, and transition services.

Luke has been part of a research team at Nottingham University running a three year project, and has several publications in National and International journals related to the project. He completed his Doctoral thesis at Sheffield Hallam University which was titled: Asperger Syndrome and Perceived Offending Conduct: A Qualitative Study.

Luke has been the dedicated Training Consultant for The National Autistic Society, and Head of the Department, and, involved not only in the delivery of autism specific training but in the development of autism specific courses and modules, the validation of the material, and inputting into developmental areas of the department.

He provides consultancy around how to work with individuals with autism, organisational consultancy, and consultancy to Local Authorities, and has spoken at a number of National and International conferences on a variety of autism related topics. He continues to work closely with individuals and families around a range of needs.

His most recent post is with Sheffield Hallam University, as Senior Lecturer in autism. He runs various courses at different academic levels in autism, including a Masters qualification, while continuing to research and consult in the field of autism. He is the course leader for the Post Graduate Certificate in Asperger Syndrome, run in collaboration with the National Autistic Society.

Luke works closely with the community supporting families and individuals with autism and Asperger Syndrome, and acts as a non clinical consultant on a wide range of issues.

He co-wrote the ASPECT consultancy report, the largest consultation with adults with AS undertaken at the time; he was co-editor of two books on Asperger syndrome published by Jessica Kingsley.

Luke’s interests are anything related to autism and Asperger syndrome, pretty much to the exclusion of everything else.