# Integrating Students with Autism Into Mainstream Classrooms (For Allied Educators and Special Needs Coordinators)

With the government policy of inclusion in Singapore, many mainstream schools may have a student with autism in their classrooms. Having a student with autism may come with challenges for the student and the teacher. Having a good systematic plan to overcome problems that arise is essential for success. In this workshop, you will learn a variety of strategies that will facilitate success in classrooms.

#### **Topics** covered

- An overview of autism and how it may affect a student's learning in a classroom
- Inclusion or Seclusion
- How to prepare the student's arrival
- · Shadow-aide or no Shadow-aide
- How to effectively use a Shadow-aide in a classroom
- Systematic planning for individual goals
- Evaluation of individual goals
- Working with other service providers
- Strategies to increase attention and independent work
- Strategies to facilitate social skills
- Understanding the limitations

# **Effective School Shadowing** (For Professional School Shadows)

It is very common that a student with autism may be accompanied to school by a Shadow-aide. The purpose of an aide is to help the student learn skills, adapt to the classroom and integrate successfully.

This workshop will give participants an overview of autism and common problems their students might face in a classroom setting.

In addition, information about behavioural problems and strategies to deal with them will be provided. We will also discuss how the Shadow-aide will effectively collaborate with the class teacher and how to promote independence for the student.

#### **Topics covered**

- Basic overview of autism and how it may affect student learning in a classroom
- The role of a School Shadow-aide
- How to work with the class teacher and other staff within the school environment
- Being contingent and clear with your expectations
- Understanding behaviour problems
- Making good effective use of support in your school
- Following a systematic plan
- Evaluating the student's performance

# For more information or to register:

Email: marcom@autismpartnershipsg.com

Tel: +65 6463 3095 Fax: +65 6463 8227

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# Autism Partnership Singapore

491B River Valley Road Valley Point Office Tower #05-01/02 Singapore 248373

www.autismpartnershipsg.com

# **AP WORKSHOPS**

# LECTURE SERIES

Lecture Series in Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA)





## Learning Skills to Effectively Teach Children with ASD

To expand upon previous workshops, Autism Partnership has developed a range of topics for professionals and parents. Workshops are specifically designed to look at common problem areas in the treatment of autism in different settings. All presentations are accompanied by videos and case studies to bring to life the concepts and information that are being taught.

# WORKSHOP TOPICS

Each Session: 9.00am-4.00pm

- Understanding Autism and the Current Treatments Available
- Behaviour Management
- Social Skills and Social Relatedness
- Dealing with Sleeping, Eating and Toileting Issues
- Integrating Students with Autism into Mainstream Classrooms
- Effective School Shadowing

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OFFICE: +65 6463 3095 EMAIL: admin@autismpartnershipsg.com www.autismpartnershipsg.com

# **Understanding Autism and the Current Treatments Available**

Autism is the fastest growing disorder in the world. There is much misinformation surrounding the diagnosis, what is the most effective treatment and what are the causes of autism. This workshop is designed to provide the most up to date information on what we know about the diagnosis and how to treat it. In an effort to separate fact from myths, we will utilize research and current scientific findings in our presentation.

#### **Topics covered**

- Historical aspects of Autism and Asperger's
- Current methods and assessments for diagnosis
- What is the diagnosis and how it affects individuals at different life stages
- Asperger's and if it is a separate diagnosis
- Diagnostic criteria for ASD
- Theories about the causes of autism
- The importance of research
- A thorough review and description of the current research findings relating to TEACCH, ABA, Occupational Therapy and Sensory Integration, Dietary and Biomedical Interventions & Stem Cell Therapy.

### **Behaviour Management**

It is very common to find individuals with autism exhibiting disruptive behaviours. These challenges can be incredibly difficult for families and educators. If their problems are not dealt with, they may persist into adulthood and significantly reduce their quality of life. Behaviour modification is often seen as an outdated or basic method. However, its application can be complex and requires extensive training to achieve good results.

This workshop is designed to give participants an overview of effective procedures that can be used with all ages and functioning levels. The case studies presented will illustrate how to work on behaviour issues in various locations.

### **Topics covered**

- Critical thinking and its importance in resolving behavioural issues
- Analysis of Functions of Behaviour
- Functional Behavioural Assessment
- Using, developing and fading of reinforcement
- Reactive procedures or what to do in the moment
- Proactive planning
- Selecting replacement behaviours
- Developing a teaching plan
- Assessing progress

### Social Skills and Social Relatedness

Social Skills are one of the core deficits that form the autism diagnosis. Good social skills are critical for success in school and later on in the workplace. Often a lack of meaningful friendships is cited as the cause of depression, which is a very common problem with adults with Autism and Asperger's. Although ABA is typically not associated with this area of intervention, this workshop will demonstrate how contemporary approaches can be very effective in teaching meaningful skills in the social arena.

This workshop will showcase social difficulties students face at different ages and the current approaches to social skills training that are often selected. We will provide an overview of the social skills taxonomy and show how it can be used as a tool for curricular development.

#### **Topics covered**

- Common social issues with students at different levels and ages
- Common problems with ABA model
- Inclusion as a model of intervention
- The Social Skills Taxonomy
- Social Learning
- Social Interaction
- Social Awareness
- Social Relatedness
- Teaching Interactions as a teaching technique
- Developing a curriculum
- Assessing progress

# **Dealing with Sleeping, Eating and Toileting Issues**

Many individuals with autism may experience difficulties with sleeping, eating and toileting. Difficulties include being unable to sleep, waking in the middle of the night, needing numerous sleep aids, having a highly restricted diet, not staying at the table to finish meals, playing with food, unable to indicate the need to use the toilet, diaper dependency, etc. It is critical to address these issues in order to reduce stress on caregivers and increase independence.

This workshop is designed to provide participants with practical strategies to solve different issues.

### **Topics covered**

- Sleep routines
- Dealing with getting out of bed during the night
- Problems with night-waking
- How to increase the range of food consumed
- Teaching children to stay at the table to finish meals
- Increasing independence in eating
- Intensive toilet training
- Teaching communication skills to request for the toilet



Early Intensive Behavior Intervention (EIBI) can be recommended as an intervention option for children with ASD.

Grade A, Level 1 ++
Ministry of Health, Singapore.
Autism Spectrum Disorders In Pre-School Children: AMS-MOH Clinical Practice
Guidelines, Ministry of Health Singapore (2010) http://www.moh.gov.sg