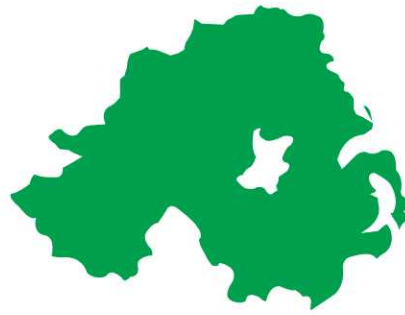


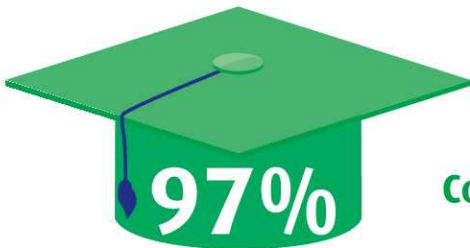


# TRAINING PROSPECTUS

# AUTISM NI - OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



**160**  
Training workshops  
completed across NI



**97%**  
Approval rating  
for content and  
resources on  
Training Courses

Courses improved people's

- Knowledge 96%
- Confidence 98%
- Skills 96%



**61** organisations  
improving accessibility  
as Impact Award champions

*'Very informative  
& helpful both  
personally &  
professionally'*

*'The facilitator was  
informative, friendly  
and engaging with  
real life scenarios.'*



Autism NI is Northern Ireland's longest serving autism charity and autism training provider. We train nearly 2500 delegates a year, with over 300 individuals choosing to complete the nationally recognised AQA Unit Award Scheme annually.

We pride ourselves on providing training and advice that is evidence based, practical and to the highest standard of accuracy to ensure it is effective in supporting individuals with autism and their families.

**TO VIEW OUR LATEST AVAILABLE TRAINING DATES AND BOOK YOUR PLACE, GO TO:**

**[www.autismni.org/training-courses](http://www.autismni.org/training-courses)**

## **WHY CHOOSE AUTISM NI AS YOUR TRAINING PROVIDER?**

We are the main Autism Charity in Northern Ireland, with a dedicated Training Department, experienced in providing a range of training courses to both parents and professionals.

We are the only autism specific **training agency** in NI to offer the AQA unit award scheme. The Unit Award scheme accreditations ensure a high standard of learning, understanding and self-development.



Our courses are **CPD certified**, giving you quality assurance. This demonstrates your commitment to learning and development, while earning CPD points.



We provide the only **Equality-Rights based training** in Northern Ireland. Organisations can achieve our Autism Impact Award by committing to staff training and reasonable adjustments to improve accessibility in line with the Autism Act 2011.



- Our trainers have a wealth of **experience and expertise** in many areas relating to Autism.
- Our trainers have a number of **autism specific training qualifications** and are trained in a number of interventions related to autism, e.g. TEACCH, PECS.
- Our sessional trainers can provide **specialist training** in areas of expertise, for example, Sensory Processing, Speech and language/communication issues, Behaviour and Makaton.
- All training courses are grounded in external **evidence-based research**.



## TRAINING ACCREDITATION

Autism NI offers a full range of training to improve the levels of knowledge, understanding and skills of those working with individuals with Autism and their families/carers.

As an independent education charity, AQA provide a range of support and services that enable learning.

The AQA Unit Award Scheme (UAS) accredits a range of our training courses. This provides the opportunity to give delegates **formal recognition of their success** in short courses (units) within the context of recording achievement. It offers learners the opportunity to have their achievements formally recognised with a certificate each time a short unit of learning is successfully completed.

The Unit Award scheme provides external accreditation of achievement and **provides a route to support lifelong learning.**



## HOW DOES IT WORK?

The AQA Unit Award Scheme recognition is offered as an optional extra on many of our courses, at an additional cost of £35 per person.

Accreditation takes the form of a short answer written assessment and usually takes approximately 30-40 minutes. AQA is usually completed on the day of the course (after the course has been completed) or alternatively, delegates can make an appointment with Autism NI to complete the accreditation at a later date. For further queries, please contact the Training Department.



## COMMISSIONED TRAINING

Autism NI also offers commissioned training for groups across NI. This service enables an organisation or group to receive a personalised service and training content that is tailored to their needs. Autism NI will facilitate a bespoke training course within your own venue, at a time and duration that is suitable to your needs. Accreditation options are also available for commissioned training.

For further information about the commissioned training available, please contact the Training Department.

## AUTISM IMPACT AWARDS

Autism NI's Impact Award have been developed to help organisations create a more 'Autism friendly environment' for their customers. Through attaining an Impact Award you can more confidently open up your business to the 30,000 individuals and families living with Autism in Northern Ireland.

The Impact Award will equip your staff to better understand any customers who have Autism and how to adapt your organisation's environment to support this.

The Impact Award Process:

- Staff will be able to complete a full day **training** course, with two nominated **Autism Champions** to complete an accredited AQA **accreditation**. This course will explore the differences and difficulties related to autism and focus on a range of practical strategies that your staff will be able to implement in their roles.
- As part of the course, a bespoke and individualised **action plan** will be discussed and agreed to help individuals with autism and their families access and use your service. Follow up contact will be agreed to **support** you in completing the action plan and achieving the award.
- Once you have achieved the **award**, Autism NI will work with you to **advertise and promote** the excellent standard of service that your staff can provide for the autism community.

## CONTACT THE TRAINING DEPARTMENT:

**T:** 02890 401729 option 4

**E:** Christine@autismni.org

*'I have been on lots of training as a SENCO and this has been by far the best course I've ever attended – all the staff have been discussing how informative and useful it is'*

(SENCO comments after bespoke commissioned training)



Investing in Autism Awareness & Training Excellence



*"Titanic Belfast's involvement in the Autism NI training and support programme was invaluable. It provided all attendees with practical and applicable knowledge that they could disseminate throughout the company. The training greatly increased our awareness of the needs of our guests, as well as the confidence of our team."*

Titanic Belfast



*"Gaining more strategies to support ASD clients having difficulties within workplace."*

*"Found tutors approachable/helpful/able to engage the groups, good rapport, inclusive."*

*"Very easy to understand when I came with limited knowledge - practical examples were brilliant!"*

# TRAINING COURSES



Courses with the CPD logo have been certified by the CPD Certification Service as conforming to continued Professional Development Principles.



UNIT AWARD

Courses with the above symbol have AQA unit award accreditation available – please enquire with Autism NI for further information when booking the course.



---

## **Autism Awareness Training For Legal Representatives** **Half Day Course**

*There are approximately 30,000 families affected by autism in Northern Ireland and legal cases can involve autism in a range of areas of law, including employment law, family law and the appeals process. Recent cases (for example, Galo v Bombardier) have identified the need for better training for legal practitioners in Northern Ireland as to the requirements of individuals with autism and social communication differences.*

**Course aimed at:** Solicitors, barristers and legal representatives

### **Course Objectives:**

Explore the key characteristics of autism and what strategies or adjustments may need to be considered to ensure you are providing a high-quality service for autistic individuals.

Course includes:

- Understanding of your legal responsibility under the Autism Act (NI) 2011
- Understanding of the main features associated with autism and the difficulties that an individual with autism may encounter using your service
- Identification of practical strategies that will improve your service and support.

---

## **Autism And Dentists** **Half Day Course**

*Would you like to know more about providing high quality care and dental service to individuals with autism?*

**Course aimed at:** Anyone working within a dental setting.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore the characteristics of autism and how this may impact on an individual when at the dentist. The course will explore effective adjustments that can be made to ensure your practice is more accessible to individuals on the spectrum, complying with equality legislation. The course includes:

- The main features associated with autism
- Challenges within the dentist environment for an individual with autism
- Appropriate strategies and support for someone with autism when at the dentist.





---

## Autism And Sport Half Day Course

*Do you facilitate sports activities for groups and sometimes struggle to engage effectively with individuals with autism?*

**Course aimed at:** Sports Coaches, Teachers, Youth Leaders and anyone who facilitates sports activities with groups.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore the characteristics of autism and how this may impact on an individual participating in sports activities. The course will explore effective adjustments that can be made to ensure these activities are more accessible to individuals with autism, complying with equality legislation. The course includes:

- The main features associated with autism
- Challenges participating in sports for an autistic individual
- Appropriate strategies and support for someone with autism to engage with sports.

---

## Autism And Supporting Employment Level 1 Full Day Course

*Do you want to find out more about the simple adaptations for the workplace that can support employees with autism?*

**Course aimed at:** Managers, supervisors and employees working with an autistic employee.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore the characteristics of autism and how this may impact on an individual within a work setting. The course will explore effective adjustments that can be made to ensure the workplace is more accessible to individuals on the spectrum, complying with equality legislation. The course includes:

- The main features associated with autism
- Potential challenges within a work environment
- Appropriate strategies and support to use within the workplace



---

## Autism Awareness For Youth Groups And Summer Schemes Half Day Course

*Do you facilitate summer schemes or youth groups but sometimes struggle to engage effectively with individuals with autism?*

**Course aimed at:** Staff or volunteers working within a youth group or summer scheme setting.

### Course Objectives:

This course will explore the characteristics of autism and how this may impact on an individual participating in youth activities. The course will explore effective adjustments that can be made to ensure these groups are more accessible to individuals with autism, complying with equality legislation. The course includes:

- The main features associated with autism
- Challenges participating in youth groups for an autistic individual
- Appropriate strategies and support for someone with autism to engage within groups.

---

## Communication & Autism Full Day Level 2 Course

*Does your child or an individual you work with struggle with verbal communication? Would you like to find out about strategies to help them communicate better at home or in other environments?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, Carers, family members and professionals working with Individuals with autism.

### Course Objectives:

Understanding the difficulties individuals with autism may have in relation to developing communication skills and strategies that promote successful communication. Course includes:

- What is communication?
- The processes of effective communication
- How does communication present in autism?
- Using structure to assist communication
- Developing communication & specific strategies.





---

## **Developing Life Skills With Young Children With Autism (Toileting, Feeding And Personal Hygiene)**

### **Full day Level 2 Course**

*Does your child struggle with toileting, feeding, dressing or personal hygiene tasks? Would you like to explore strategies to help your child increase their independent skills in these areas?*

**Course facilitated by Specialist Occupational Therapist (OT)**

**Course aimed at:** Parent/carers with a child (approximately aged 0-7) with autism

#### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore what is meant by self-care and life skills. It will discuss a range of strategies to promote independence with everyday self-care tasks and life skills, for example:

- Sitting and engaging
- Going outside
- Sleeping
- Feeding
- Toileting, washing and showering
- Dressing

---

## **Females With Autism**

### **Half Day Course**

*Do you want to explore the differences in relation to autism for females and how to support females on the spectrum?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, carers and family members

#### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore the differences between male and female presentations of autism, and why females may be underrepresented or missed in the diagnosis of autism. The course will explore the key characteristics of autism for many females and a range of strategies for supporting autistic women and girls.

**Please note:** This course is designed for parents who have already completed basic autism training.



## Fundamentals Of Autism Workshop Full Day Level 1 Course

*Do you want to know more about what autism is? What does the diagnosis mean?  
How can I start to support someone with autism?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, Extended family, Support Staff, Teachers and Classroom Assistants

### Course Objectives:

Understanding of the main features associated with autism and exploring various strategies to support individuals. Course will include:

- Introduction to and main features associated with autism spectrum disorder.
- Understanding of the impact of autism and the difficulties encountered.
- To identify and be aware of various strategies.

#### **\*RECOMMENDED COURSE\***

This is our recommended first course for anyone who has not completed in depth autism training previously.



## Growing Up, Health Awareness & Autism Workshop Level 2 Course (2 day)

*Do you want to know more about how to support your child through adolescence and puberty while building their independent skills?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents and Carers with a child (approximately aged 8+)

### Course Objectives:

This two-day course will help parents to support their young person with autism during the adolescent years, to help them increase independent life skills needed for adulthood. We will consider how general health awareness and well-being may be impacted by autism and identify a range of strategies that may be effective in supporting young people with autism to have access to information that is user friendly.

We will explore: Family Values and attitudes, Promoting self-esteem, Body Awareness, Personal Hygiene, Relationships and friendships, Sexual Health issues and Personal Safety.



---

## An Introduction To Autism And Anxiety

### Half Day or Full Day Course

*Do you want to explore a range of strategies to help your child with emotions, stress and anxiety?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, carers, family members and professionals.

#### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore the key characteristics of autism that may impact on a person's anxiety and stress levels. The course will explore a range of strategies to help increase emotional understanding, emotional regulation and coping strategies to help an individual on the spectrum reduce the impact of anxiety.

**Please note:** This course is designed for parents who have already completed basic autism training.

---

## The KEYHOLE® Early Intervention Programme In ASD

### Level 2 Course (2 day)

**Course aimed at:** Anyone working with pre-school children with autism in an Early Years setting i.e. all playgroup, nursery school or classroom and private day care staff.

#### **Course Objectives:**

The KEYHOLE Early Intervention Programme is holistic approach for young children to enhance their development from a young age. Topics covered: Play, Communication, Social Interaction, Behaviour and the Early Years role. Content of the course includes:

- Explore autism in the pre-school child and what difficulties the child may have in the early year's situation.
- Identify strategies for effectively interacting with children with autism.
- The basic principles of supporting individuals with autism in the early year's group.
- Explore how to structure activities with children on the spectrum.
- Develop skills in interacting with autistic pre-school children and their parents.

As part of the course, delegates will receive a series of information manuals and a Structured Teaching Starter Kit which includes activities and visuals.

**Please note:** Five AQA Level 2 Units can be completed as part of this course.





---

## **Makaton Foundation Workshop** **2 x Full Day Course**

*Would you like to learn Makaton Signs and Symbols to use within the home?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, family members, carers and professionals

### **Course Objectives:**

This Makaton Workshop provides a practical introduction to the Makaton Language Programme. Sessions include discussing commonly asked questions, hints and tips for effective signing and symbol use and how to start using Makaton in everyday situations at home or work.

You will also learn the signs and symbols for Stages 1-4 and Additional of the Core Vocabulary. You will receive two workshop manuals, which include the signs and symbols that you have learned.

---

## **Sensory Processing & ASD** **Full Day Level 2 Course**

Course facilitated by a Specialist Occupational Therapist (OT)

*Would you like to find out more about sensory differences for an individual with autism and explore sensory ideas to implement at home or in other environments?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, carers, family members or professionals working with an individual with autism.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore the range of sensory processing differences relating to autism and discuss a range of strategies that can support an individual with sensory processing difficulties. This Course includes:

- Understanding sensory processing and autism.
- Understanding of how sensory processing impacts on a person's function.
- Giving strategies that you can implement daily.
- Starting your sensory lifestyle.





## Social Stories & Comic Strip Conversations Full Day Level 2 Course

Course facilitated by specialist Speech & Language Therapist (SLT)

*Have you heard of social stories or comic strip conversations but not sure how to use them?*

*Would you like to find out more information about how to make these and use them with an individual with autism?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, carers, family members or professionals working with an individual with autism.

### Course Objectives:

This course will help you understand what social stories and comic strip conversations are, and how you can use them effectively with an individual with autism. The course includes:

- Understanding the structure of a social story and why they are used
- Understanding the structure of comic strip conversations and why they are used
- Using social stories & comic strip conversation effectively with an autistic individual.



## Supporting Young People With Autism Through Adolescence Level 2 Full Day Professional Course

**Course aimed at:** Professionals who work with older children and adolescents with autism, e.g. in residential facilities, school and mentoring programmes.

### Course Objectives:

This day course will help professionals to support young people with autism during the adolescent years, to help them increase independent life skills needed for adulthood. The course will explore a range of challenges that may occur and a range of intervention strategies to improve and promote the wellbeing of young people with autism. Content of the course includes:

- Body Awareness and Personal Hygiene
- Relationships
- Self Esteem
- Sexual Development
- Personal Safety



---

## Supporting Your Young Child With Autism – Strategies To Use With A Child With Autism & Learning Difficulty

### Full Day Level 2 Course

Course facilitated by Specialist Occupational Therapist (OT) & Speech & Language therapist (SLT)

**Course aimed at:** Parent/carers with a young child with autism

#### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore key development in a young child with autism and explore strategies or activities to encourage skills development for child with autism and learning difficulty. You will:

- Learn about the key building blocks of development
- Explore communication in children with autism & learning difficulties and learning difficulties
- Learn about the link between play and communication
- Discuss behaviour as a form of communication
- Learn how to encourage independence with your child

---

## Understanding & Promoting Positive Behaviour

### Full Day Level 2 Course

Course facilitated by a teacher specialising in Behaviour

*Would you like to find out more about strategies that could be used to help an individual understand what is expected of them and help them improve their behaviour at home or in other environments?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, carers, family members and professionals working with an individual with autism.

#### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore what behaviour is and how autism may impact an individual's behaviour. The course will include:

- Understanding what behaviour is
- Identify, appreciate and understand causes of challenging behaviour for young people with autism.
- To identify several strategies to promote positive behaviour





---

## Understanding Social Skills & Autism

### Full Day Level 2 Course

*Do you want to feel more confident in addressing and teaching social skills with a young person with autism?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, carers, family members and professionals working with an individual with autism.

#### Course Objectives:

This course explores strategies to support a young person with autism to learn and develop social skills. This course includes:

- Understanding Social difficulties experienced by the young person with autism
- Understanding Social Skills
- Teaching Social Interactions
- Teaching Social Understanding
- Social Skills training – practical strategies



---

## Using Structure With An Individual With Autism

### Full Day Level 2 Course

*Do you think your child would benefit from structure but you're not sure where to start?  
Do you want to find out more about how to implement visuals and structure when working with someone with autism?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, Carers, family members and professionals working with Individuals with autism.

#### Course Objectives:

This course explores the main features of autism, identifies elements of structured teaching that may benefit an autistic individual and how these can be implemented in home or other environments in a practical way. Elements of Structure explored include:

- Schedules
- Work or Activity systems
- Physically structuring the environment
- Positive Routines





---

## Using Visuals With Children And Young People Half Day Course

*Do you want to find out more about the benefits of using visuals for your child and how to start using them at home?*

**Course aimed at:** Parents, carers and family members

### **Course Objectives:**

This course will explore why we use visuals for individuals with autism and show you how to make individualised visual structure for your child. We will discuss how you can use visuals to help your child with:

- Routines for the day
- Instructions for independent self-help skills
- Behaviour Management
- Emotional regulation and anxiety
- Understanding instructions and choice

As part of this course, delegates will be able to create and prepare visuals to take home with them to use with their child.

**Please note:** This course is designed for parents who have already completed basic autism training.



**TO VIEW OUR LATEST AVAILABLE TRAINING  
DATES AND BOOK YOUR PLACE, GO TO**

**[www.autismni.org/training-courses](http://www.autismni.org/training-courses)**

**or email [Christine@autismni.org](mailto:Christine@autismni.org)**

**Autism NI exists to support individuals with autism and their families and campaigns to raise awareness of autism within the wider society.**

**Our vision is an equal society in Northern Ireland where barriers to those living with autism are removed and equality of access to rights and opportunities protected and enforced.**



Donard, Knockbracken Healthcare Park,  
Saintfield Road, Belfast BT8 8BH  
t: 028 9040 1729 e: [info@autismni.org](mailto:info@autismni.org)  
[www.autismni.org](http://www.autismni.org)



Facebook:  
[/AutismNI](https://www.facebook.com/AutismNI)



Twitter:  
[@AutismNIPAPA](https://twitter.com/AutismNIPAPA)



Instagram:  
[autism\\_ni](https://www.instagram.com/autism_ni)