

Living With Autism - Stories, Strategies & Strengths

A day aimed at parents, teachers, therapists and health & social care professionals

Programme

9:30 *Welcome and introduction to the day*

Dr Alison Sankey Chair of Wiltshire Family Counselling Trust

9:40 Stories Session One

'Living with Asperger Syndrome'. Rosalind & Gill Hardy (experts by experience)

10:40 Break

11:00 Strategies Session One

Building on Strengths and Adapting Approaches Michele Corley (Independent Trainer)

1pm Lunch

1:45 Stories Session Two

Tales from the Front Line Becky Eakins (expert by experience)

2:45 Break

3:00 Strategies Session Two

Building on Strengths and Adapting Approaches Michele Corley (Independent Trainer)

4:30 Finish

NB all presentations will include an opportunity to ask questions

Speaker Biographies

Michele Corley, an independent trainer and practitioner whose specialisms include Autism and Video Interaction Guidance (VIG). Michele also works at the University of Exeter, including as Academic Lead for the Post-Graduate Diploma for Children and Young People with Autism and/or Learning Disabilities Children and Young People Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (CYP IAPT).

Michele is a qualified teacher of special educational needs who has extensive experience of working with children / young people on the autism spectrum and their families, both in the home environment and in educational settings. Michele has also worked on a specialist autism assessment team within Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS)

Becky Eakins, mother two busy boys aged 8 and 10, one of whom has autism, ADHD, sensory hypersensitivity and fine motor delay. Like many working parents, she juggles children, school and her own full time swimming business Turtle Tots. A trained facilitator for the National Childbirth Trust Becky has undertaken a number of courses on parenting special needs children.

Rosalind Hardy, 33, attended special schools then, at 16, went to a mainstream college. She loves animals and has worked with dogs and horses. She works part-time for the Borough of Kingston upon Thames (her home town), undertaking a variety of tasks connected with special needs, including giving talks about living with Asperger Syndrome. She lives with her parents.

Gill Hardy, Rosalind's mother, is a retired primary school teacher. She sometimes joins Rosalind during the talks, giving her perspective on being a parent of a child on the autistic spectrum.

Dr Alison Sankey, is a retired Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist who worked in NHS CAMHS services in Hampshire and Southampton and is now Chair of the Wiltshire Family Counselling Trust.