

An Overview of Additional Support Needs in Early Years

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9.30am – 3.30pm

It is vital to look at how children learn and relate that knowledge to children in the early years, who have specific learning problems. It is important to have an overview of some of the most common support needs which staff of early years establishments may encounter. Many problems are not identified until a child comes into nursery. Staff benefit from knowledge of various additional needs to help with a very first evaluation, before seeking help from other agencies.

Aims

- To consider how young children learn, and to relate that information to children with additional support needs;
- To examine the various criteria of Asperger's syndrome, autism, Tourettes syndrome, and ADHD and to relate them to practice in the early years establishment.

Throughout the course delegates will explore the main identifiers of additional support needs which will be examined and discussed. The course will look at how to manage these children with understanding and compassion.

Part of the course will discuss working with parents who are under great pressure at home. Their anger is sometimes unfairly directed at early years staff, but it is frustration at the system which often annoys parents. Parents look on early years staff as experts in child development and often look for answers to difficulties which they are having at home with their children.

