

Teaching Young Children with Autism

Description:

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This one-day course is available to teachers of young children with Autism.

The course illustrates simple yet innovative practice that develops social and emotional understanding, communication, and flexibility in thought and behaviour. Videos of teacher/child interaction in the classroom setting are used as a basis for discussion of daily activities and promoting strategies to engage the young child and to promote social inclusion.

Anticipated outcomes: Participants will:

- Develop awareness of the challenges facing children with Autism
- Understand the unique social and communicative needs of the child with Autism
- Understand the benefits of implementing a child-centred teaching and learning approach
- Develop awareness of the importance of play in engaging the young child and in developing social communication and inclusion in young children with Autism.
- Understand the benefits of classroom structure and become familiar with practical teaching strategies
- Develop awareness of various Autism specific approaches to teaching and learning

Course outline and content: This course encompasses

- Background to Autism
- Using a social developmental approach to teaching young children with Autism
- An overview of current best practice and Autism specific approaches to teaching and learning
- Practical strategies for teaching and learning in the classroom
- Promoting collaboration as a key to success

Content

- Autism, psychological theories, sensory issues
- Developing and promoting social language through play, engagement with others, turn-taking, developing a sense of self
- Drawing on Autism specific approaches to develop an individualised curriculum
- Implementing a structured approach which promotes flexibility and independence
- Following the child's lead to engage in activities which are enjoyable and beneficial

Information for applicants: Participants will require permission from the Board of Management to attend. Typically, substitution for this seminar will only be allowed to classroom teachers with primary

responsibility for students with a special educational need and if it is deemed absolutely essential by the Principal. Typically substitution will only be allocated to non - substitute teachers. Payment is not available to teachers in a substitute capacity. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. Registration: 8.45 AM Start: 9.15 AM Finish: 3.30 PM

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