

CPD FOR THERAPISTS

Working Therapeutically with Clients with High Functioning Autism with Helen Franklin and Louise Ordish

Saturday, 27th November 2021, 1000-1630

HYBRID EVENT, i.e. in-person as well as online (subject to Government guidelines)

Venue for in-person: Bramham Therapy, 6A London Road, Marlborough SN8 1PH

Introduction

In the UK, one per cent of people are diagnosed with an autism spectrum condition. Counsellors and psychotherapists are increasingly finding that people with an autism diagnosis (or those they might suspect have autism) are reaching out for therapeutic support. And yet, on most diploma, degree or even masters training programmes, working with autistic process is never mentioned. This leaves many clinicians feeling de-skilled and confused when encountering autism in the consulting room and means that autistic adults, who desperately need our help, are often left adrift.

This workshop will be a mixture of teaching and experiential learning, and aims to give practitioners a grounding in working with adults with high functioning autism. The characteristics, challenges and potential strengths of an autism spectrum condition will be explored, and delegates will develop an understanding of how they can adapt and enrich their practice to work with this fascinating client group. We will cover:

- What is the autism spectrum?
- Separating the myths from the facts
- Issues around diagnosis with special reference to autism in girls
- What kind of therapeutic approaches work best and which are contra-indicated?
- Understanding the overlap between trauma practice and autism: how understanding the Window of Tolerance and Polyvagal theory can empower us in our work with people on the spectrum
- Understanding sensory integration
- Useful skills and techniques for working with clients on the spectrum.
- How might I structure an assessment with someone on the spectrum?
- Building self-esteem, self-compassion and the ability to be in relationship.



Greta Thunberg who has Asperger's

Helen Franklin has a master's degree in Gestalt psychotherapy from the Metanoia Institute and a diploma in contemporary trauma practice. She has long been fascinated with working with people with autism and, in the 1990s, ran support groups for teenagers on the spectrum in West Berkshire schools. As fate would have it, it became clear, while training as a psychotherapist, that her second child had autism. As a result, Helen brings her embodied experience as a parent living alongside a child with autism and her clinical experience, working with adults with ASD.

Louise Ordish is a psychodynamic counsellor and has a self-diagnosis of Asperger's (high-functioning autism). She's lived and worked with people with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder, and brings to this session her own experience and the knowledge she's gained from attending courses and conferences relating to autism. Her clients include young people and adults, both men and women, who are on the spectrum. Prior to training in Psychodynamic Counselling at University of Oxford, she developed and ran training courses for businesses. Louise is happy to have had the opportunity to bring these two aspects of her life together to help create and run this event with Helen.

Open to psychological therapists (including trainees) from all modalities and health professionals

N.B. places limited to 10 for in-person attendance

Fee for in-person attendance: early bird before 27th October 2021: £105, or after £115 to include refreshments and a light lunch (parking not included)

Fee for online attendance: early bird before 27th October 2021: £85; or after £95

CPD certificates supplied. **TO BOOK:** <https://www.bramhamtherapy.co.uk/events/>

Contact: events@bramhamtherapy.co.uk or 07599 369566

Each delegate is responsible for self-care should material at our professional events trigger difficult feelings