

Target Audience

People who require a general understanding of autism and the support autistic people may need. This is relevant to those in working in any sector who may occasionally interact with autistic people, but who do not have responsibility for providing direct care or making decisions about autism-specific care or support. For example, this may include those working in public services, commercial or charitable organisations providing health, social care, education, policing, custodial care, housing, transport, careers, employment, or benefit services. It would include front-of-house and reception staff.

It is estimated that there are over 700,000 autistic people in the UK, equivalent to around 1.1% of the population. Many of these people and their families at one time or another, face a battle to get the right information, support and care. When skills, knowledge and understanding are lacking in the public service workforce this can create fundamental barriers for many autistic people in accessing the services they need.

The Government have now introduced a requirement, from 1st July 2022, for CQC registered service providers to ensure their employees receive autism training appropriate to their role. This is to ensure health and social care workforce have the right skills and knowledge to provide safe, compassionate, and informed care to autistic people. This requirement is set out in the Health and Care Act 2022.

This course is delivered using a range of methods and resources including:

- ◆ Live tutor facilitation, polls and questionnaires, scenarios for breakout groups, questioning and participation and end of session assessment.

This course has been developed and mapped to current occupational standards, qualification frameworks and the following documents and resources:

- ◆ The Core Capabilities Framework for Supporting Autistic People - Tier 1
- ◆ Domain A. Understanding Autism – Capability 1 Tier 1
- ◆ Advanced Clinical Practice Capabilities framework when working with people who have a learning disability and/or autism
- ◆ ‘Right to be heard’ DHSE 2019
- ◆ The Autism Act 2019
- ◆ The Mental Capacity Act 2005

Course Content

- ◆ What is autism
- ◆ Using respectful terminology
- ◆ Common autistic characteristics
- ◆ Meeting each person's unique communication and information needs
- ◆ Active participation
- ◆ Providing time and space to for people to process information
- ◆ Using use clear and unambiguous language and responding positively to direct language and direct feedback
- ◆ Recognising some key differences in social interaction
- ◆ Sensory issues that can impact on autistic people
- ◆ How anxiety and stress can contribute to sensory tolerance
- ◆ Planning for and providing information about changes in advance
- ◆ Recognise the importance of passionate interests and hobbies
- ◆ Accessing resources and further information about autism

Learning Outcomes

After attending this course, learners will be able to:

- ◆ Demonstrate positivity, recognising the strengths and abilities of autistic people
- ◆ Know how to actively listen to what is being communicated by an autistic person
- ◆ Recognise the presentation, behaviour and identity of autistic people – and respond with respect and compassion
- ◆ Recognise, respect and value autistic people's differences and challenge negative stereotyping
- ◆ Be committed to integrated current and future care and support through working in partnership with autistic people, teams, communities and organisations

Duration: 7 Hours