

THE 5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**COMMUNICATION:
THE KEY TO SUCCESS**

ADDRESSING AUTISM/ ASPERGER'S SYNDROME

Friday 20th May 2011

**EDGE HILL UNIVERSITY
ORMSKIRK, UK**

CPD
Accredited
for Medical
Practitioners



Keynote Speaker
Professor Tony Attwood

Belle Vue House
Assessment & Development Centre 


Witherslack Group


Edge Hill University

Target Audience

- Teachers, Support Assistants
- LEA staff
- Allied Health Professionals
- Speech and Language Therapists
- Educational Psychologists
- Parents/Carers or others who are meeting the needs of those with Autism/Asperger's Syndrome
- Academics
- Medical Practitioners

Paediatricians attending this event may claim up to 5 CPD credits, in accordance with the current RCPCH CPD guidelines.

Background

If you are a relative or professional living or working with a young person who is diagnosed with Autism or Asperger's Syndrome you will know that the barriers within education, employment, and social situations are significant. The impact that the complexities of Autism and Asperger's Syndrome has upon life situations is very real. Communication is a key factor in addressing the needs of such young people and by addressing this issue, windows of opportunity are opened. This enables young people to progress, in terms of furthering their education and employment options, by improving self-esteem and confidence or simply by offering an opportunity to feel included in society, to feel valued and understood.

COMMUNICATION: THE KEY TO SUCCESS

This conference is a collaborative venture between Belle Vue House Assessment Centre and Edge Hill University. Belle Vue House in Ormskirk is an independent assessment and development centre for children with communication difficulties. It is part of The Witherslack Group of Schools and provides independent professional assessments for young people, aged four to adulthood. The multi-disciplinary team which comprises a Speech and Language Therapist, a Specialist Teacher, an Educational Psychologist, an Occupational Therapist and a Consultant Paediatrician is trained in the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders. Edge Hill University stands for academic and professional excellence. It is a welcoming, diverse community, accessible to everyone, providing exceptional support for students in high-quality learning environments.

Programme Outline

08.30 Coffee and registration

Welcome and introduction

Professor Tony Attwood:

The origins of special interests & constructive strategies

Coffee

Alex Porter/Carole Porter:

The Importance of Being AS Alex

Parallel Session 1

Lunch

Parallel Session 2

Professor Adam Ockelford:

Music: Window on the autistic mind

Professor Tony Attwood:

Strategies to reduce being bullied and teased

16.15 Close

Keynote Presentation



Professor Tony Attwood is a clinical psychologist who has specialised in autism spectrum disorders since he qualified as a clinical psychologist in England in 1975. He works in private practice in Brisbane, but is also adjunct professor at Griffith University, Queensland. His book *Asperger's*

Syndrome – A Guide for Parents and Professionals has sold over 300,000 copies and has been translated into twenty languages. He has worked with over 6,000 individuals of all ages with Asperger's syndrome. Tony presents workshops and runs training courses for parents, professionals and individuals with Asperger's syndrome all over the world and is a prolific author of scientific papers and books on the subject. His latest book *The Complete Guide to Asperger's Syndrome* was published in October 2006.



Professor Adam Ockelford

Since his time as a student at the Royal Academy of Music in London in the late 1970s, Adam has worked with children and young people across the spectrum of special needs, and with a wide range of musical interests and abilities.

Throughout this time, his particular focus has been on children with autism – often (though not exclusively) in the context of sensory impairment and learning difficulties. His best-known student is the internationally acclaimed musical savant Derek Paravicini (see www.derekparavicini.net). Adam has written and lectured widely on the subject of music and autism, and he frequently acts as a consultant on matters pertaining to music and autism – most recently for the BBC series *Autistic Superstars*. Before his current role as Professor of Music at Roehampton University, Adam was Director of Education at the Royal National Institute of Blind People, in which role he set up a school and home for children with sensory impairment, autism and challenging behaviour. In the 1990s, working with a group of parents, he established the AMBER Trust, which offers bursaries to enable blind and partially sighted children (including those with additional disabilities) to engage in musical activity at any level. He is chair of Soundabout, an Oxfordshire-based charity that trains practitioners working with children with complex needs through music. For more information see: www.roehampton.ac.uk/staff/AdamOckelford

Alex Porter/Carole Porter

Alex Porter was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome at the age of seven, whilst attending Manor Road Primary School. From there he attended a mainstream high school, Balshaws C.E, where he found a love for drama and drumming. He then got into Runshaw College where he took business studies, psychology and theatre studies. From here he became interested in psychology and emotion, when he got the grades to attend the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) he took a combined honours degree of Counselling and Drama, which he passed with a 2:1. Throughout his life he received specialist support alongside his education which led to an interest in learning to work in a supporting role for others. He is now completing a Post-graduate qualification in Counselling & Psychotherapy and is a practising Asperger's Mentor, where he gives weekly support for university students with AS, at UCLan.

Carole Porter was working and studying part time when her son was diagnosed. She put her studies on hold in order to support Alex until he went to college. Carole is now a qualified counsellor and works full time at the University of Central Lancashire as the School Administrative Officer.

Cost

Conference Fee ¹	£180.00 [inclusive of VAT]
Conference Fee ²	£75.00 [inclusive of VAT]

for people with ASD and parents of young people with ASD

Early Bird Discount for bookings made by 31.03.11

Conference Fee ¹	£160.00 [inclusive of VAT]
Conference Fee ²	£55.00 [inclusive of VAT]

for people with ASD and parents of young people with ASD

How to register

Please complete the enclosed conference registration form and post it to **Peter Weatherill, Conference Administrator, Faculty of Health, Edge Hill University, St Helens Road, Ormskirk, Lancashire L39 4QP.**

Alternatively online booking is available via our website at: edgehill.ac.uk/keytosuccess

Confirmation of places, maps and a programme will be despatched one month before the conference date. If you have not received your confirmation letter one week before the conference date, please phone to check we have received your registration form on **+44 (0)1695 650738** or email: weatherp@edgehill.ac.uk

Terms and conditions

Applications are accepted on the understanding that the applicants agree to the following booking terms and conditions.

All conference fees remain payable once a registration is received by Edge Hill University

Edge Hill University's terms of payment are 30 days from date of invoice.

Cancellations are not possible. A substitution may be made in the event of withdrawal.

Belle Vue House and Edge Hill University reserve the right to make changes to the published programme if necessary

DELEGATE BOOKING FORM

COMMUNICATION: THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Please reserve a place at the conference on

Friday 20th May 2011

Conference Fee¹

£180.00 [inclusive of VAT]

Conference Fee² for people with ASD and parents of young people with ASD

£75.00 [inclusive of VAT]

Early Bird Discount for bookings made by 31.03.11

Conference Fee¹

£160.00¹ [inclusive of VAT]

Conference Fee² for people with ASD and parents of young people with ASD

£55.00² [inclusive of VAT]

Delegate Details [please use BLOCK CAPITALS]

Name

Position

Organisation

Address

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Postcode

Tel (Day)

Email

If invoice address is different from that above please state here:

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I enclose a cheque made payable to: **Edge Hill Enterprises Ltd**

Please invoice me:

Purchase Order No

[if applicable]

Dietary/special

requirements

Signature

Date

CALL FOR PAPERS

COMMUNICATION: THE KEY TO SUCCESS

ADDRESSING AUTISM/ASPERGER'S SYNDROME

20.05.11

EDGE HILL UNIVERSITY
ORMSKIRK, UK

You are invited to submit abstracts for oral and/or poster presentations focussing on any innovations, developments or research in the area of working with young people with high functioning autism with particular emphasis on communication. Oral presentations will be allocated 25 minutes plus 5 minutes for questions.

Conference audience:

health professionals
educationalists
psychologists
academics
parents
people with ASD etc.
medical practitioners

All queries regarding the call for papers should be directed to:

Dr Jeremy Brown,
Evidence-based Practice Research Centre,
Faculty of Health,
Edge Hill University,
St Helens Road,
Ormskirk,
Lancashire L39 4QP

T: +44 (0)1695 650919

E: brownjm@edgehill.ac.uk

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

Abstracts are to be submitted via email to the Conference organising committee:

E: keytosuccess@edgehill.ac.uk

Deadline for abstracts is
Friday 25th February 2011

The abstract should not be more than 300 words in length (papers describing work in progress are eligible).

For educational innovations and developments use the following headings: context & setting; why the innovation/development was introduced; what was done; evaluation of results.

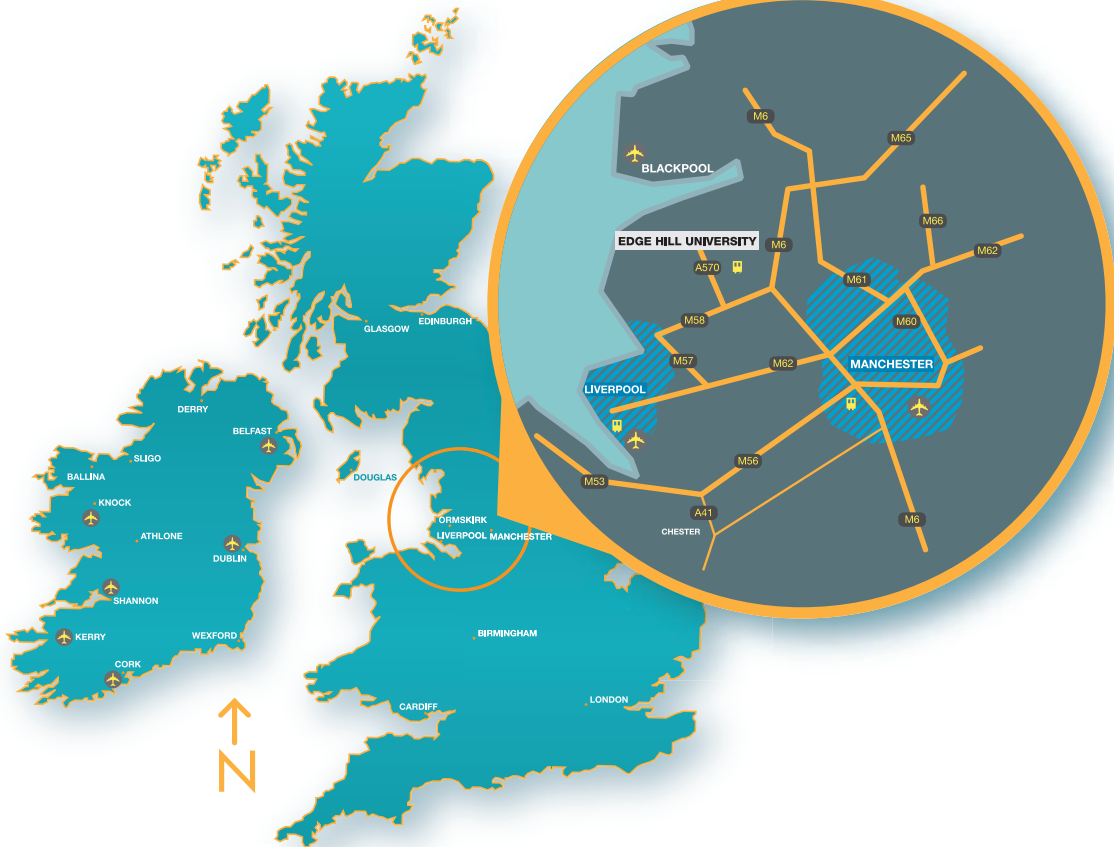
For research use the following headings as appropriate: background; aims & objectives; methods; results; discussion; conclusion.

A panel of assessors will judge submitted summaries on the following criteria:

- Soundness of approach
- Clarity of description of the development, innovation or research project
- Accessibility, importance and relevance of content for a national and international audience

If a paper is accepted, presenting authors **must** register for the meeting as a delegate. We look forward to receiving your abstract.

Please note: amendments to abstracts cannot be made after the closing date.



Edge Hill University

Please return the booking form to:

Peter Weatherill
Conference Administrator
Faculty of Health
Edge Hill University
St Helens Road, Ormskirk
Lancashire L39 4QP

E: keytosuccess@edgehill.ac.uk or
E: weatherp@edgehill.ac.uk
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Please feel free to photocopy the form

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