

## post 16 programme making sense of autism

# A three tier training programme for professionals in post 16 education

## 1. Raising awareness

2. For practitioners

3. For managers

Basic autism awareness training for everyone involved in a post 16 setting who would benefit from an understanding of autism. This includes teaching and support staff, office staff, caterers, caretakers, transport staff, governors, employers and careers advisers.

### Aims:

- Identify the four key areas of difference that need to be taken into account when working with young people on the autism spectrum.
- Know the importance of understanding the young person on the autism spectrum and their profile of strengths and areas for development.
- Identify the key areas to help young people on the autism spectrum build positive relationships with staff, peers and people in their community.
- Develop an awareness of the sensory and communication differences that young people on the autism spectrum may experience.



### The individual

Every young person is unique. Knowing the young person, understanding how their autism affects them and building on strengths will support positive outcomes.



### Building relationships

Creating strong partnerships with the young person, their family and those who are important to their future life will make a big difference to both progress and sense of well-being.



### Curriculums & learning

A meaningful and relevant curriculum that addresses the aspirations of the young person and takes account of their individual needs and skills will facilitate a successful transition to adult life.



### Enabling participation

Young people will learn and succeed in enabling environments in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and effective support is provided to enable them to access a wide range of pathways in life beyond college.

**90  
minute  
course**

There are approximately 500,000 (or 1 in 100) on the autism spectrum in the UK with a very wide range of abilities and needs. All professionals working in post 16 education settings should be prepared to support young people on the autism spectrum — and all staff should have a basic awareness of autism and the needs of individuals.

The AET post 16 programme - making sense of autism, supported by the Department for Education, offers nationally delivered face-to-face training for professionals working with young people over the age of 16 through the training hubs listed overleaf.

The programme will form an essential part of your Continuing Professional Development and can play a key role in supporting your organisation to provide its best endeavours in meeting the needs of young people on the autism spectrum.