

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

# Neurodivergent-affirming language, communication and spaces

## How has this course been developed?

This 3 hour course has been developed in-line with the latest research and empirical studies relating to aspects of neurodivergent-affirming practice and support, and balanced with 10 years professional experience of supporting autistic and neurodivergent adults and young people, as well as lived experience of the specific subject matter.

#### What is the overall course aim?

This course aims to develop a strong understanding of how to support undiagnosed, undisclosed, disclosed or self-recognising autistic and neurodivergent individuals. You will gain an understanding of how to support in a neurodivergent-affirming way and how to motivate your team to engage with neurodivergent-affirming changes to practice and processes.

## What are the expected learning outcomes?

- Understanding of neurodivergent communities, and how they intersect
- Understanding the language we use that is respectful and sensitive to the autistic community specifically and generally to the neurodivergent community
- Understand the Equality Act 2010 and recruitment reasonable adjustments in relation to neurodivergence
- Understand the common communication and sensory barriers neurodivergent people face in every-day life
- Understand how to support self-advocacy and neurodivergent confidence
- Aware of supportive neurodivergent-affirming service practice and processes, focusing on communication and the environment
- Neurodivergent mental health first aid including practical strategies to support anxious or overwhelmed neurodivergent people accessing environments and services
- Workshop practical and tailored strategies, focusing on communication and the environment, to adapt your personal and team practice to be autism-affirming
- Aware of how to access additional strategies and resources to support your autism and neurodivergent-affirming team change

### Who is this course for?

This course has been designed for professionals and individuals providing services for the public. No previous knowledge or training is required, however attendees should have a good basic understanding of what neurodivergence is.

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