

SEND & Sensory Information Workshops and Courses

Welcome to Smart Bright Training, our aim is to provide families with information that empowers and informs in relation to the support available for their child or young person. To feel confident to use this knowledge at home, in educational settings and in the community when advocating and supporting their child.

Our workshops run from between 2 and 4 hours and can be delivered as daytime, twilight or evening sessions to fit in with the demands of family life.

Workshops can be delivered on-line of in person – dependant on restrictions and number of participants.

Below is a summary of some of the workshops we can offer...if you are looking for something that isn't listed, then please contact us to discuss a bespoke arrangement for your group.



Introduction to Sensory Processing

The aim of this course is to support participants to understand the different senses and the importance of these on our bodies. We will learn about Sensory seeking and avoidance behaviours in children and strategies to support them, with a range of practical advice and tips to try at home, school or in the community. Consider 'Practical Strategies for Sensory Processing as a follow-on workshop.

My Anxious Child

A workshop to support families to understand and support their anxious child, sharing practical strategies to help create a calming and positive approach. Lots of hints and tips for home and to share with educational settings and others working with your child. We will also look at the impact that Covid-19 is having and ways to support your child with these changes. This workshop is suitable for a range of ages. Consider 'Making a sensory toolkit' workshop for more practical help as follow-on course.



Making Meetings Work For You

Do you sometimes feel anxious, overwhelmed or perhaps angry in meetings regarding your child? Do you feel frustrated that you don't seem to be able to get your views heard or communicate as effectively as you would like to? Are you overwhelmed with the "new" style of meetings online? Struggle to cope when faced with several people and it's "just me" The aim of this workshop is to provide parents and carers with information to support them to feel more prepared when meeting professionals working with their child and to feel more empowered to have their voice heard.

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SEND In The Early Years

This workshop aims to support parents with children in the Early Years, supporting parents to be able to recognise and understand any developmental concerns. Offering support for ongoing concerns and where to go for advice. Explaining multi-disciplinary assessments, Education Health and Care Plans for 0-5-year olds and practitioners that may be involved. We will discuss future support at nursery, in educational settings and offer some strategies to try at home with your child.



Understanding and Supporting ADHD

This workshop aims to provide an understanding of what ADHD is, the impact on individuals, looking at behaviour and neurology and the implication of impaired 'executive functioning' on those with ADHD. We will look at positive strategies to support your child at home, in education and in the community. If your child is at risk of exclusion we can explain 'reasonable adjustments' and discuss lawful and unlawful exclusions. Your child does not have to have a diagnosis of ADHD for parents to attend this useful information workshop. Consider 'One Page Profiles as a follow-on workshop.

SEN Support in Educational Settings

Do you need help in understanding the type of support available in educational settings for your child and how to ask for this help? Find out what special educational needs (SEN) and quality first teaching (QFT) mean and how these can work for your child. Find out what 'graduated response' and 'plan, do, review' mean for your child and have more confidence to have discussions about educational support for your child with professionals involved. Consider 'Understanding Education, Health & Care Plans' for more complex support needs as a follow-on workshop.



Understanding Education, Health & Care Plans

Considering applying for extra support for your child with education or training? An application has been made for an EHC needs assessment and you are not sure of the next steps? This workshop aims to support understanding of the process, the law and how it should be applied in relation to assessments and plans. We will guide you through the sections of plans, what should be in those sections and lots more...Would like to know more? Consider 'HELP! With EHCPs' and/or 'Annual Reviews – What you need to know' as follow-on workshops.



HELP! With Education, Health & Care Plans

There is an EHCP in place for your child or young person: in need of help to make sense of it and feel less overwhelmed? Perhaps you are unclear about or have questions relating to particular sections? Struggling to understand how section F (provision) and section B(needs) work together? Not sure what it means or what the specific educational provision is for your child? How does the evidence from reports fit in? This workshop is aimed at supporting families understand how the EHCP should work to reflect the support for your child. Having your child's EHCP to hand might be helpful for the session. Also consider 'Understanding EHCPs' and /or 'Annual Reviews – What you need to know' as follow-on workshops.

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Practical Strategies for Sensory Processing

This workshop will explain the senses and the impact on individuals if experiencing particular difficulties with one or more of these. The aim of this workshop is to guide parents and carers to think about the kinds of activities that can be put in place at home, often using simple everyday items and the benefit these can bring to your child or young person. The workshop will be informal and Sara & Karen will be delivering this in a 'show and tell' style. If you would like a more comprehensive understanding of this topic, then please consider our 'Introduction to Sensory Processing' workshop.



Supporting Autistic Pupils With Learning

Struggling to get the right kind of provision in place for your child in an educational setting? Not sure what is available or how to ask what can be provided for your child or young person? We look at a range of helpful strategies and reasonable adjustments that can be used to support your child or young person to engage with their learning at school or in the community. We will also discuss learning in the home and share some helpful top tips, to support with organisational skills, self-help, personal care and helping your child to take small steps to independence.



EHCP Annual Reviews - What you need to know

This workshop will explain the legal framework relating to Education, Health and Care Plan Annual Reviews. What to expect and how to prepare for a successful meeting. We will look at ways to ensure that your child's views and aspirations are central to the discussion. We will explain what should happen after the meeting and who has responsibility for the writing of reports following the meeting. We explain any next steps you might wish to consider and hopefully bust some EHCP myths. For other EHCP information, consider 'Understanding Education, Health & Care Plans' / 'Help! With Education, Health & Care Plans'.



One Page Profiles: Practical person-centred approach to support your child

This workshop will help parents and carers to understand the difference between what is important to someone and from what is important for them and how these can be separated. Recording this on a one-page profile and looking at what is working and what is not working, to make a positive difference to your child's life experiences. This way of working can be a useful way to record your child's views and aspirations, as part of SEN support plans, EHC plans. One-page profiles can be shared with anyone working with your child, to assist them in understanding what works well for your child, from your child's perspective.



Neurodiversity - in the workplace, at school, everywhere

This workshop will help those attending to have a better understanding of what makes us human and how differences can have a positive impact on the way in which we carry out our daily schedules, work and commitments. We will give a broader understanding of what neurodiversity is and what this means to individuals and some of the challenges that can easily and creatively supported in the workplace and community. We will look at an overview of the law and protections this offers. Attendees should have more confidence to review and reflect their own experiences of neurodiversity at work and in the community and leave with an understanding of next steps that can be implemented in the work place to develop good practice to embed a positive attitude of inclusion and acceptance.

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Getting ready for 'big' School

Starting school can be very daunting...for the grown-ups as well as the children! This workshop will take you through some of the points you may wish to consider when looking for a school place for your child with SEND. We will talk through roles and responsibilities in education and who you as parent carers can turn to with any questions or concerns. We will look at planning and preparation, once you have found a school that you think will work well in nurturing and educating your child, what can you do next help your child feel 'school ready'. Transition arrangements? What are these and how important are they for your child? What happens with your child's EHCP, or asking for additional support? We will discuss this and more to aid you to build a success start for your child's educational experience from nursery or home-based learning into 'Big School'

Transition to High School

Moving up to High School is another huge milestone for many primary aged children...and their families. This workshop will take you through some of the points you may wish to consider when looking for a secondary school place for your child with SEND. What to consider if they have an EHCP or a SEN Support plan in place. Who to speak to and what sort of school to look for that will meet the needs of your child, including considering a more specialist setting, dual placements. Participants should leave feeing more informed about what to consider in a secondary setting and what they can reasonably ask for as SEN provision to secure a successful education for their child.

EHE V EOTAS

Many families are opting out of a traditional style 'school based' education for their children. For some this has been a response to the pandemic and for some, the school relationship may have eroded, the school is struggling to meet the needs of the child or parents wish to try something different. This workshop discusses the differences between EHE (Elective home education) and EOTAS (Education otherwise than at school) The duty on parents and the Local Authority in respect of both options and what the educational experiences for children and young people (CYP) could be. If the CYP has an EHCP how can this be set out and who has the responsibility to provide the education? We will look at a summary of legislation and where to go for more advice and information to ensure parents make an informed choice regarding their child's education. The workshop is also helpful to professionals working within SEND and need explanations clarification of these topics.

Understanding and Implementing, Visual Strategies to Support Children with Language and Communication Delay

This workshop is a must for parents and practitioners working with children who have language and communication delay in the Early Years, EYFS and supports practitioners to understand and use visual timetables appropriately. Often, we hear "use a visual" but what does this mean? How do you know if you have the right type

Good Practice; Supporting children with Additional Needs and Disabilities in your setting.

In this workshop we will discuss good practice in observing and recording child development and stressing its importance for all of the staff team. We will share good practice around talking to parents and discuss strategies and resources to support children in your care and referrals to other services. We look at how you can make those first steps of support for children when observations are made that a child may require assistance with early learning.

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