### Toys, Technology and Training

Free Talks and Workshops Autumn 2022

Supporting Children and Adults with Additional Needs



## buytickets.at/tttkildare

- kildarecoco.ie/library
- **F** KildareLibraryService
- @kildarelibrary
- @kildarelibrary
- **v** kildarelibrary

### Contents

What is the TTT Programme?	4
Free Talks and Workshops	
Sensory Garden at Leixlip Library	
	8
See and Learn Kits (Down Syndrome Ireland)	10
Further Resources	11

### Events

Sibshop Workshop at Leixlip Community Library	13
ASD-Friendly Sensory Story Time Sessions	
GetAutismActive: ASD Training Programme with Dr. Susan Crawf	ord
Sensory Integration and Autism	
Teaching and Learning Interventions and Autism	16
Co-occurring Conditions with Autism: Epilepsy, Catatonia and	
Developmental Coordination Disorder	17
Programme Planning and Evaluation and Autism	17
Occupational Therapy Series with Dr. Dorothy Armstrong	
Helping Neurodiverse Primary School Children Transitioning to	
Secondary School	
Helping your Neurodiverse Child Manage the Transition into	
Puberty	
Sensory Processing Disorder—What Is It and What Can Help?	
Mindfulness and Relaxation for Neurodiverse Children and	
Teenagers	
Processing Speed—What Is It and How Can We Help?	
Occupational Therapy Talks with The Sunflower Clinic	
Sensory Processing and Your Child	23
Helping Children/Adolescents with Executive Function Problems	
to Organise Themselves	
Using Social Stories to Help Children with ASD Understand and	
Interact with Others	
Speech and Language Talks with CAINT	
Using Visuals to Support Children with ASD	
Promoting Communication in Minimally Verbal Children	
ADHD Talk with Ken Kilbride, CEO, ADHD Ireland	
ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder)	
Dyslexia Talks with the Dyslexia Association of Ireland	
Dyslexia and Self-Advocacy	
Dyslexia and Self-Esteem	
Dyspraxia/DCD Talks with Dyspraxia/DCD Ireland	
Dyspraxia/DCD into Adulthood and Higher Education	
Assistive Technology, DCD and Me: Hardware and Software that	
Can Assist Everyday Life	33
ASD and Social Media with Emma Cross	
Navigating Social Media with Young Adults and ASD	34
Behavioural Therapy Talks with Audrey Cully	
Autism Spectrum Disorder	35
Understanding Behaviours of Concern	
Parent/Key-Worker Communication with Eleanor Glennon	
Cultivating Positive Relationships with Your Child's Key-workers	37
Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland (AADI)	
Speakers	39
Let's Talk About Parenting: Parenting & Family Support Talks	45

## What is the TTT Programme?

The TTT Programme is designed to offer support to children and adults with learning difficulties, disabilities or more significant needs.

Based in Athy, Leixlip and Naas libraries, a specialised collection of toys and assistive equipment can be accessed free of charge in branches throughout the county and can be borrowed or utilised by joining up at any Kildare library.

Items in the catalogue can be requested or renewed online and collected by the borrower at their nearest branch library. Pick up a catalogue at any Kildare library or view it online <sup>II</sup>.

This collection has been chosen by the staff of Kildare Library Service in partnership with therapists working in the community.

Membership is free to any individual who lives, works or goes to school in County Kildare. Contact your local library for further terms and conditions of use.

A full list of our libraries and contact information is available at <u>kildarecoco.ie/library</u> <sup>II</sup>.















## Free Talks and Workshops

The TTT Programme includes an annual series of free talks and workshops, funded by Kildare County Council. These events offer further guidance, support and networking opportunities for parents, teachers and healthcare professionals.

Attendance is open to everyone and free of charge, though booking is required.

TTT talks and workshops from September to November 2022 will be a mix of in-person and online events. **Please take note of location** (**Q**) when booking.

**Continuous Professional Development** 

Certificates of Attendance are available for all TTT talks and workshops in 2022.

Please contact <u>leixliplib@kildarecoco.ie</u> <sup>d\*</sup> after the event to request your certificate.

# Sensory Garden at Leixlip Library



















## Sensory Pods

Sensory pods are a safe space designed to address the needs of those with sensory support, processing or anxiety-based challenges.

The pods offer options to engage or limit visual, auditory and kinesthetic supports.

Sensory pods are located in Kildare Town library and Leixlip library; for more information or to book a session, contact the relevant library directly: kildarelib@kildarecoco.ie  $\mathbf{C}$  / leixliplib@kildarecoco.ie  $\mathbf{C}$ 











## See and Learn Programme

Down Syndrome Ireland

Developed by Down Syndrome Education International to specifically support the learning needs of young children with Down Syndrome.

- Evidence led, structured programmes which help children with Down syndrome develop their speech, language, early literacy, and numeracy skills
- · Easily used by parents and professionals
- Training video available: <u>https://youtu.be/hEu1NLpClkQ</u>

#### **Background information:**

- One in every 444 children born in Ireland has Down Syndrome
- A good early start can make a big difference to the life of a child with Down Syndrome
- Starting school with a good vocabulary and an awareness of the written word paints a picture of a child who is able to learn
- Attitudes and expectations have a big impact on learning outcomes

## See and Learn Kits

Available through the TTT Collection

These kits can be used with children aged 18 months to 8 years. To borrow these kits, you must be a member of the TTT Programme.

#### See and Learn Vocabulary Kit

Introduces children to their first words at the earliest stage of language development (18+ months) in approximate developmental order.

#### See and Learn Phrases Kit

Teaches children to put spoken words together in a range of two key word phrases and to read their first sight words and phrases.

#### See and Learn Sentences Kit

The next step, pulling together all the words that the children have learned so far, along with some extra vocabulary, into a reading scheme of 25 books focusing on sentences and grammar.

#### See and Learn First Counting Kit

Teaches children to count to 10 and to understand important concepts about the number system.

## **Further Resources**

#### TTT Book Collection

A tailored selection of titles providing comprehensive information on numerous conditions.

Available in Leixlip Community Library; request from your local library branch or via the online catalogue.

#### TTT Vimeo Channel

Our TTT Vimeo channel features talks, presentations, storytimes and more, with new content added regularly: vimeo.com/channels/toystechnologytraining <sup>II</sup>

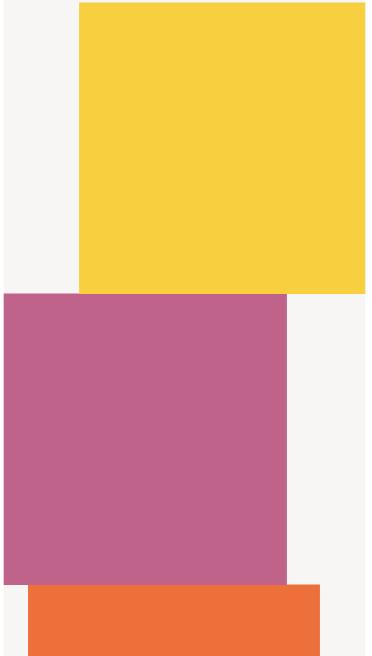
#### Touch-type Read Spell (TTRS)

TTRS is a literacy programme aimed at improving reading and spelling while teaching touch-typing. It is specifically designed for those with learning differences such as Dyslexia and Dyspraxia.

TTRS is available in the following Kildare Libraries: Athy, Celbridge, Kildare, Leixlip, Maynooth, Naas and Newbridge.

For more information, please contact your nearest library branch.

## **Events**



## Sibshop Workshop at Leixlip Community Library

## Sibshop Ireland

22.10.2022
 2-4.30pm



Book Tickets

Sibshops are fun workshops for siblings of children with special needs. They are lively, with games and discussions and provide a great opportunity for siblings to get together and chat about some of the difficulties and the positives of having a sibling with special needs.

The workshops consist of small groups of children aged 8–12 years (inclusive).

Their sibling with special needs should be over 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years so that they can see and understand that their brother or sister has special needs.

Siblings experience the same joys and concerns as their parents yet have fewer opportunities to gain access to support. Often siblings do not want to burden their parents with their own worries. Sibshop Workshops are one way of offering them fun and the support they deserve.

## ASD-Friendly Sensory Story Time Sessions at Leixlip Community Library

Sharon Curran, MSEN, BA Mont Ed, Dip Hort

24.09.2022
 22.10.2022
 26.11..2022
 11am

Join Sharon for a fun, sensory story time tailored specially to meet the needs of children with ASD.

- Leixlip Library
- Book Tickets <sup>IC</sup>





## GetAutismActive

## Online ASD Training Programme with Dr. Susan Crawford

This series explores issues of sensory integration and management, identifies teaching and learning interventions that may be useful for the autistic population, considers those identified co-occurring conditions of epilepsy, Catatonia and Developmental Coordination Disorder and brings it all together with an exploration of general programme planning, development and evaluation.

## GetAutismActive

## Online ASD Training Programme with Dr. Susan Crawford

### Sensory Integration and Autism

	8.09.2022 30pm	This lecture explores sensory integration from profiling through to strategies to deal
<b>Q</b> 0	nline	with sensory integration and processing issues.

■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

### Teaching and Learning Interventions and Autism

 ③ 15.09.2022 7.30pm
 ○ Online
 ○ Online
 This lecture provides an outline of some of the teaching and learning interventions that are used and provide support for autistic

■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

## GetAutismActive

## Online ASD Training Programme with Dr. Susan Crawford

### Co-occurring Conditions with Autism: Epilepsy, Catatonia and Developmental Coordination Disorder

① 22.09.2022 7.30pm This lecture explores specific conditions that may occur for autistic populations, how they present and how they are potentially managed.

■ Book Tickets <sup>27</sup>

• Online

### Programme Planning and Evaluation and Autism

() 29.09.2022 7.30pm

Online

This lecture explores the key principles and practices of programme planning, development, delivery and evaluation for autistic populations.

■ Book Tickets <sup>IC</sup>

Helping Neurodiverse Primary School Children Transitioning to Secondary School

③ 06.09.2022 7.30pm

• Online

Book Tickets

Transitioning to secondary school is a major milestone in a child's life and it's very important to prepare neuro-diverse children (autism, Developmental Coordination Disorder/Dyspraxia, ADHD and/or dyslexia) in order to make this transition as smooth as possible.

This session is aimed at parents, teachers and those who work with this population.

It will cover issues such as:

- The issues that are challenging for the neuro-diverse child when transitioning to secondary school
- How to prepare your child for the transition
- Strategies that will help with organisation and secondary school readiness

Dr Armstrong is the author of the book The Next Adventure: Transitioning to Secondary School when you have Developmental Coordination Disorder which is available through Dyspraxia Ireland <sup>G</sup>.

# Helping your Neurodiverse Child Manage the Transition into Puberty

(13.09.2022) 7.30pm

• Online

■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

Puberty can be a particularly difficult time for Neurodiverse teenagers. Change can be difficult and there are new skills to learn such as managing periods and the new feelings that might be emerging. The hormonal changes can also cause an increase in anxiety. This session is aimed at parents, teachers and those who work with this population.

It will cover issues such as:

- · Puberty and periods
- Socialising
- · Sexuality
- Personal hygiene
- Feelings

# Sensory Processing Disorder—What Is It and What Can Help?

① 20.09.2022 7.30pm

• Online

Book Tickets

We all receive information about the world around us through our senses e.g. sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch. This helps us to understand the world around us and helps us to know how to respond to it. It is common for Neurodiverse people to find certain types of sensory information e.g. light, sound, textures overwhelming.

Examples of sensory processing problems include:

- Smells other people don't find a problem make the person feel sick
- Finding the noise of a hoover or handdryer painful
- · Needing to move or fidget constantly
- Having an anxiety response to light or unexpected touch
- · Needing the labels to be cut off clothes

This session is aimed at enabling people to develop a greater understanding of Sensory Processing issues and the strategies that can help.

Mindfulness and Relaxation for Neurodiverse Children and Teenagers

③ 27.09.2022 7.30pm

• Online

■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

Neurodiverse young people (autism, Developmental Coordination Disorder/ Dyspraxia, ADHD and/or dyslexia) can suffer from high levels of stress and anxiety. This can be due to their heightened sensitivities; the unfortunate pressure some feel to mask their neurodiversity in order to fit in; problems with change; and heightened emotions in general.

This session will provide a mixture of experimental learning and direct teaching on the relaxation and mindfulness strategies that she has found most helpful to her clients over the years.

Processing Speed—What Is It and How Can We Help?

① 04.10.2022 7.30pm

• Online

Book Tickets

Your child may have had an educational psychology assessment done and one of the results were that they have a slow processing speed. This can be confusing to many parents. Difficulties in processing speed can be common in children with learning difficulties, developmental disorders and attention problems and can cause a lot of frustration for these children. Processing speed involves one or more of the following functions: the amount of time it takes to perceive information (through the senses). process that information, and / or formulate or enact a response. In other words, processing speed with impact how quickly someone can get something done.

This webinar will focus on:

- Understanding what processing speed means
- Understanding the different areas that can be impacted by a slow processing speed
- Ways to help children and teenagers with slow processing speed

## Occupational Therapy Talks with The Sunflower Clinic at Leixlip Community Library

Sensory Processing and Your Child

③ 01.11.2022 7pm

• Leixlip Library

■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

This talk deals with the concept of Sensory Processing and how important it is in a child's normal development. Sensory Processing Disorder is a recognised condition which can have a very profound effect on a child's ability to deal and manage a wide variety of sensory input which can result in quite significant changes in a child's ability to learn and also their overall behaviour in school and in the home.

The talk will address the following main themes:

- · What are our senses?
- · What is Sensory Processing Disorder?
- · Case studies of examples
- · Demonstration of appropriate equipment

### Occupational Therapy Talks with The Sunflower Clinic at Leixlip Community Library

Helping Children/Adolescents with Executive Function Problems to Organise Themselves

③ 08.11.2022 7pm

Leixlip Library

Book Tickets

Human beings have a built-in capacity to meet challenges and accomplish goals through the use of high-level cognitive functions called executive skills. These skills begin to develop in early infancy and continue to develop well into adolescence and early adulthood. These skills are necessary to select and achieve goals or to develop problem solutions.

This talk will look at these skills and how to develop strategies to help children/ adolescents who struggle with them:

- Planning
- Organisation
- Time management
- Working memory
- Metacognition

### Occupational Therapy Talks with The Sunflower Clinic at Leixlip Community Library

Using Social Stories to Help Children with ASD Understand and Interact with Others

(15.11.2022) 7pm

Leixlip Library

■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

One of the biggest challenges faced by children on the ASD spectrum can be their lack of comprehension with changing social and emotional situations in life. Some children find it simply impossible to naturally understand the difference between two seemingly obvious social scenes and can often react in a socially inappropriate manner.

This talk aims to explore some of the reasons for these issues and go through series of Social Stories specifically designed to help children understand and more appropriately deal with various social scenes.

# Online Speech and Language Talks with CAINT

Using Visuals to Support Children with ASD

③ 27.10.2022 7.30pm

Online

Book Tickets <sup>IC</sup>

This presentation will help you to support your child's communication through the use of visual for home and preschool/school. Independence is an important concept in our everyday life through which we make decisions, communicate our thoughts, feelings, and emotions, and make simple requests. For those with significant language difficulties, independence can be more difficult to obtain.

CAINT's Speech and Language Therapists, with extensive training and years of experience, have developed many ways of using visuals in order to support children to develop their independent daily living skills. This presentation will focus on how to use visual aids in a meaningful and functional way.

# Online Speech and Language Talks with CAINT

Promoting Communication in Minimally Verbal Children

③ 24.11.2022 7.30pm

• Online

Book Tickets <sup>II</sup>

Children can have difficulties in their early language acquisition for many different reasons. Children will often communicate with us then in non-verbal ways such as using gestures, pointing, or eye-gaze (to name but a few). As our children's communication partners, we need to be able to not only interpret these bids for communication but also develop the child's communication skills and learn the best ways to respond to these attempts.

This presentation will help you to support your child's communication through developing the foundations of language and their prelinguistic skills.

## Lámh Module One Online Course

 Group 1: 24.09.2022
 10am–1.30pm

> Group 2: 22.10.2022 10am–1.30pm

• Online

Book Tickets

This course is for professionals who have started to work in an environment where Lámh is used and covers 100 Lámh signs and how to support a Lámh user. No previous Lámh training required.

#### **Course Content:**

- Module One Lámh signs (100+)
- Alternative and augmentative communication (AAC)
- · Lámh-a brief history and development
- · Lámh signing environment

#### Accreditation Achieved:

Module One Certificate

Participants will also receive a learning pack from Lámh following completion of the course.

#### Course Schedule:

Online participant-led training via the Lámh website will take place in the week leading up to the tutor-led Zoom session. Completion of this training is a requirement for attending the tutor-led session.

Places on this course are very limited and in high demand. Please only book if you can attend and participate fully.

### ADHD Talk with Ken Kilbride, CEO, ADHD Ireland at Leixlip Community Library

ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder)

(18.10.2022) 7.30pm

• Leixlip Library

■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

ADHD, while it affects 5% of the population (one in 20) is still very much a misunderstood condition. ADHD when identified and treated is a very manageable condition, however the rates for undiagnosed ADHD in both children and adults is very high in Ireland.

This talk will explain what ADHD is and what it is not, what are the treatment routes and tips on how to manage with the condition. This talk is suitable for both parents of children with ADHD and adults living with the condition.

## Online Dyslexia Talks with the Dyslexia Association of Ireland

Dyslexia and Self-Advocacy

③ 20.10.2022 7.30pm



■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

Navigating an understanding of what their young person is allocated throughout their journey in education can be an overwhelming responsibility as a parent/guardian. Within our talk on self-advocacy, we will explore what self-advocacy is and look to develop a sense of what you are advocating for, unique to the context of your young person.

Within this talk, we will look at understanding appeal procedures and the bigger picture of supporting your young person with dyslexia.

## Online Dyslexia Talks with the Dyslexia Association of Ireland

Dyslexia and Self-Esteem

(17.11.2022) 7.30pm

• Online

Book Tickets

This talk on Dyslexia and Self-Esteem is for parents who want to learn more about how to support the self-esteem and wellbeing of their young person with dyslexia.

This session will focus on the following topics:

- · The ways dyslexia impacts self-esteem
- · Self-esteem cycles.
- · The language of positive reinforcement
- Building confidence when faced with stress & anxiety
- The importance of one good adult in a young person's development

## Online Dyspraxia/DCD Talks with Dyspraxia/DCD Ireland

# Dyspraxia/DCD into Adulthood and Higher Education

() 06.10.2022 7.30pm

Online

Book Tickets

The journey into adulthood and higher education can be a difficult, anxiety inducing transition for adolescents or mature students with Dyspraxia/DCD.

Neurodiverse psychotherapist Lorraine Mooney will discuss concerns involved and tools and supports in making the transition more manageable, effective and enjoyable.

# Online Dyspraxia/DCD Talks with Dyspraxia/DCD Ireland

Assistive Technology, DCD and Me: Hardware and Software that Can Assist Everyday Life

③ 03.11.2022 7.30pm

• Online

Book Tickets <sup>C</sup>

Technology has progressed greatly in recent years and is all around us today. This webinar aims to look at some of these developments and see how they can help us in our daily lives.

Areas to be covered include ergonomics and physical environment, hardware suitable to needs and software and apps to target specific challenges and to support learning.

## ASD and Social Media with Emma Cross at Leixlip Community Library

Navigating Social Media with Young Adults and ASD

(11.10.2022) 7.30pm

• Leixlip Library

■ Book Tickets <sup>I</sup>

Social Media is part of modern-day communication. This talk aims to empower those supporting young adults with ASD or a Learning Disability to use social media and technology appropriately and safely.

This talk will explore:

- The positives and challenges to young people with ASD/LDs using social media
- How to discuss and introduce boundaries regarding social media
- To recognise the features of the more popular apps and online gaming and other safety features
- How to explicitly teach appropriate/ inappropriate comments and behaviour
- How to deal with cyber bullying and peer pressure

## Online Behavioural Therapy Talks with Audrey Cully

Autism Spectrum Disorder

(13.10.20227.30pm

Online

Book Tickets <sup>II</sup>

As the number of individuals being diagnosed with autism has risen over time, Audrey will explore what the symptoms and characteristics are, and explain how it presents differently from one person to another.

Some parents or caregivers notice differences at a very young age, but for others, noticeable symptoms may not become apparent until later, with girls diagnosed less often than boys. This workshop will be beneficial if you would like to increase your knowledge on autism spectrum disorder.

Information about the assessment process will be provided, as well as the important points to consider when hiring a home tutor to work with your child. Sensory difficulties and anxiety will be discussed, as a person with autism often experiences challenges with both.

## Online Behavioural Therapy Talks with Audrey Cully

Understanding Behaviours of Concern

10.11.20227.30pm

Online

■ Book Tickets <sup>IC</sup>

Some children and adolescents with autism or a related disorder, exhibit behaviours of concern. Sometimes these behaviours are displayed as injury to oneself, other people or the environment.

During this workshop, we will explore what is meant by behaviours of concern. Audrey will discuss strategies and procedures that support parents and professionals in finding out why the individual displays these behaviours.

Advice will be provided on how to support the person to have their wants and needs met in an appropriate way.

Audrey will also include tips and advice on how to respond when difficult behaviour is repeated over time, or when episodes of behaviour occur.

## Online Parent/Key-Worker Communication Talk with Eleanor Glennon

Cultivating Positive Relationships with Your Child's Key-workers

① 22.11.2022 7.30pm

Online

Book Tickets <sup>IC</sup>

This workshop will focus on how you can create positive and meaningful relationships with your child's key-workers, social care workers, teachers, therapists, special needs assistants and other important people in your child's life.

We will be focusing on styles of communication, navigating conflict, building trust, how to advocate for your child while staying in relationship with the staff member, and how to nurture these relationships.

This workshop will give you the practical tools you need to rebuild or create healthy relationships with some of the most influential people in your child's life!

## Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland (AADI) Autism Assistance Dogs: More Than Just A Friend

③ 25.10.2022 7.30pm

Online

Book Tickets

Every family's story is different. Every child with autism is different. Every autism assistance dog changes the world for children with autism.

How does an assistance dog help? With the placement of an assistance dog, families get their lives back. The whole family is awarded the freedom to go out together within the community again. These highly skilled dogs are more than a friend: first and foremost, an assistance dog is trained to keep their child companion safe, but the other potential benefits an assistance dog can offer to a child and their family will also be explored. In this talk you will learn about the journey from newborn pup to suPAWhero!

It costs AADI €22,000 and takes 2 years to train each of these life-changing assistance dogs—learn how AADI relies on public donations, fundraising and a team of fantastic and committed volunteers to enable them to fulfill their mission to change the world for children with autism.





utism

Ireland

Assistance <u>Dog</u>s

#### Dr. Dorothy Armstrong | achieveOT.net 27

Dr. Armstrong (MSc PhD) is an Occupational Therapist who works with people who are Neuro-diverse. She specialises in working with teenagers, young adults, and adults on the autism spectrum and/or with ADHD and/ or Developmental Coordination Disorder (Dyspraxia).

Her area of expertise is with Neuro-diverse people who also have mental health issues and/or difficulties in the area of executive function.

### Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland | aadi.ie

Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland is a national charity who provides assistance dogs to children with autism.

Established in 2010 and accredited to the highest standards by Assistance Dogs International, AADI's mission is to change the world for children with autism by offering children suffering with debilitating symptoms of autism the opportunity to reach their full potential.

As well as providing life-changing autism assistance dogs, they are committed to raising autism awareness, understanding and inclusion within the community. AADI does not charge for their assistance dogs and are entirely supported by public donations, fundraising and volunteers.



#### CAINT | caintspeechtherapy.ie

CAINT is a multidisciplinary service of SLT, OT and psychology services. CAINT takes a holistic view of the client by exploring speech and language function, their abilities to participate in daily activities (Occupational Therapy), and their overall development and educational attainment (Psychology).



#### Dr. Susan Crawford | getautismactive.com

Dr. Susan Crawford originally trained as a general nurse and midwife and worked in these combined fields both nationally and internationally before returning to complete a BSc in Sport and Exercise Science at the University of Limerick (UL). On graduating, she worked in exercise prescription and sport injury management.

She completed her Ph.D. in Autism and Movement Impairment in UL. From there she went on to join the staff of The School of Education in University College Cork (UCC) from 2008–2019 and worked as a lecturer and researcher.

After becoming a Fulbright Scholar in 2015, Susan travelled and worked with the University of San Francisco to create and develop the GetAutismActive online resource kit. In 2019, Susan left UCC and went into fulltime autism training and consulting.



#### Emma Cross

Emma Cross is a passionate SEN (Special Educational Needs) teacher with 10 years experience working across a range of SEN settings.

Emma has a degree in Social Care, a PGDE in Primary Education and has completed the Professional Diploma in Special and Inclusive Education in DCU. Emma has also worked as an Associate for the L2LP (Junior Cycle) and as a SEN tutor in Hong Kong.

In her talks, Emma draws on her own experience in the classroom and current best practice.



#### Audrey Cully

Audrey Cully is a Behaviour Specialist who has over 18 years' experience of working in the area of special needs, with a strong background in autism.

She has worked with children from 2 years old up to 18 years in different settings including special schools, autism classrooms and mainstream primary school. Audrey also works with children with autism and related disorders in their homes. She works as a Behavioural Consultant and has designed and overseen many IEP's and Behaviour Support Plans and has extensive experience in dealing with crisis episodes of behaviour.



#### Sharon Curran

Sharon Curran (MSEN, BA Mont Ed, Dip Hort) is a Special Educational Needs teacher specialising in autism spectrum disorder. She has a background in Montessori education and a wealth of experience in teaching children with a wide range of learning disabilities.



#### Dyslexia Association of Ireland | dyslexia.ie

Founded in 1972, the Dyslexia Association of Ireland (DAI) is a charity which works with and for people affected by dyslexia, by providing information, offering appropriate support services, engaging in advocacy, and raising awareness of dyslexia.

Their vision is a dyslexia-friendly society where all people with dyslexia are enabled to fulfil their potential, where every child and adult with dyslexia has access to appropriate identification and support to achieve their full potential in education, training, employment, and all aspects of life.



#### Eleanor Glennon

Eleanor Glennon is a mother of two and works as a Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist specialising in Play Therapy with a private practice in Kinnegad, Co. Meath.

Throughout her career as a Social Care Worker and Psychotherapist, Eleanor has focused on supporting children and adults who have disabilities. Eleanor enjoys delivering talks and workshops which are both practical and engaging for participants, with an emphasis on play!



#### Ken Kilbride, ADHD Ireland | adhdireland.ie

Ken is CEO of ADHD Ireland and has over 20 years' experience in senior management positions in a wide range of both very large and very small not for profit organisations in Ireland.

ADHD Ireland's mission is to make life better for people affected by ADHD. They are dedicated to providing up-to-date information, resources, and networking opportunities to individuals with ADHD, parents of children with ADHD and the professionals who serve them.



#### Lámh Development Ireland | lamh.org

Lámh is the manual sign system used by children and adults with intellectual disability and communication needs in Ireland. Lámh was originally developed in the early 1980s in order to have a unified, standardised, Irishbased approach to signing for those with intellectual disabilities and communication needs.



#### Sibshop Ireland | sibshopireland.ie

Linda Foley and Liz Fitzpatrick both work with children with an Intellectual Disability. Liz is a Registered General Nurse and an AMI Montessori teacher and has been supporting children (6–18 years) with special needs in mainstream education for over 20 years. Linda is a Registered General Nurse and a Paediatric Nurse, and she runs a specialised pre-school for children from birth to 6 years. They are qualified Sibshop facilitators and Parents Plus facilitators. They have a huge interest in sibling support and are founders of Sibshop Ireland.



#### The Sunflower Clinic | sunflowerclinic.ie

The Sunflower Clinic is an independent children's Occupational Therapy service with 6 clinic locations in Munster and Leinster. They specialise in Sensory Processing, Motor Coordination and Autistic Spectrum Disorders for children and adolescents. They are the largest independent Occupational Therapy service in Ireland with a team of highly experienced therapists dedicated to providing a caring and supportive service and all of our therapy clinics are fully equipped for Sensory Integration therapy.



The Let's Talk about Parenting Programme is a FREE series of talks and workshops for parents, as well as professionals working with children and young people in County Kildare. The programme is provided by Kildare Library Service, funded by Kildare County Council, and supported by Kildare CYPSC and members of the multi-agency Kildare & West Wicklow Parenting Forum.

For more information on the Parenting Forum and the supports available in County Kildare visit <u>parentingsupport.ie</u> <sup>G\*</sup>

Presently all the talks are being provided online. Certificates of attendance are available for CPD purposes.

Sign up to the LTAP events newsletter at this link (just select your local library): kildarecoco.ie/library/newsletter  $\Box$ 



Kildare Library and Arts Services Toys, Technology and Training Free Talks and Workshops

Awareness • Education • Inclusion

