

Davis Stepping Stones Online Workshop - Beginning Steps to the Davis Autism Approach Program

A workshop specifically created for parents, caregivers & support persons of younger individuals with ASD and for those with limited language.

Course: Davis Stepping Stones

Description: An introductory program developed for any of the following:

- Younger individuals who are on the autistic spectrum
- Younger individuals who are struggling to meet early childhood development milestones.
- Individuals of any age who have low or no verbal ability.

Aim: To provide the opportunity to gain sufficient knowledge and skills to actively support the development of early life and social concepts

Course level: Introductory – level 1

Course Length: 10 weekly sessions

Recommendation reading:

Autism and the Seeds of Change – By Abigail Marshall and Ronald D. Davis

Who should attend: Parents, family members and support persons of individuals who demonstrate autistic characteristics and/or are struggling to meet early childhood development milestones.

Therapists, teacher aids, early childhood workers, allied health assistants.

Anyone who is interested in the Davis Autism Approach®.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the workshop you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding behind the rationale for the programme and how it helps those with ASD under the age of 8 or those with very limited language, to develop the foundational life's lessons needed to complete essential early childhood development stages.
- Describe and reflect on the process of 'individuation' (awareness of self) and the role it plays in the acquisition of early life concepts.
- Use the Davis Self-regulatory Tools for yourself.
- Demonstrate the techniques needed to guide someone through the use of the Davis Focusing Tools.
- Identify the Basic Stepping Stones concepts and their definitions.
- Describe the technique of Concept Mastery using clay and gain experience on how to guide another/your child through this process.
- Explore the Concept Mastery procedure for the Basic Stepping Stones Concepts of *self, another, others, change, consequence, cause/effect, before/after*.
- Facilitate experiences so that these concepts can be understood and transferred across a variety of situations.

Workshop Outline

Session 1

Meet and greet session

- Introductions and familiarisation with the online meeting technology.

Module 1 – Self Regulatory Tools

- Tools for the Helper – Release and Dial

Session 2

Module 2 - Fully Understanding the behaviours and characteristics

- Theory of development (Piaget)
- Childhood Development – Individuation, Identity Development, Social integration

Module 3 – Facilitation of Individuation

- Auditory orientation – purpose and use
- Signs of individuation

Session 3

Module 3 – Facilitation of Individuation

- Play/interaction activities
- Release for the child
- Introducing the clay through play – Steps 1/2

Session 4

Module 3 – Facilitation of Individuation

- Introducing the clay through play – Steps 3/4
- Extended Q&A

Session 5

Module 3 – Facilitation of Individuation

- Davis® Stepping Stones Concepts – *self; mind; body; lifeforce*

Session 6

Module 3 – Facilitation of Individuation / Module 4 – Identity Development

- Davis® Stepping Stones Concepts – *another; others*
- Introduction to identity development

Session 7

Module 4 – Identity Development

- How to take your child through the Davis® Stepping Stones Concept of *change*

Session 8

Module 4 – Identity Development

- How to take your child through the Davis® Stepping Stones Concept of *consequence*

Session 9

Module 4 – Identity Development

- How to take your child through the Davis® Stepping Stones Concepts of *cause/effect* and *before/after*

Session 10

Module 5 – Additional Self-regulation Tools for Your child

- Auditory Orientation Fine-tuning
- Koosh ball exercises

- Dial
- Action plan

Teaching and Learning Tools:

- Powerpoint presentations
- Guided discussions
- Film media
- Demonstrations
- Guided practice
- Q & A
- Group work

Evaluation:

- Self-assessment by participants of skills and knowledge gained throughout the workshop.
- Assessment of participant skills and knowledge by the course leaders

Note:

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