

Open Awards Qualification Unit



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1 Unit Details

Unit Title:	Introduction to Autism
Unit Reference Number:	Y/507/6729
Level:	Level 2
Credit Value:	4
Minimum GLH:	36

2 Learning Outcomes and Criteria

Learning Outcome (The Learner will):	Assessment Criterion (The Learner can):
1. Understand what is meant by autism	1.1 Describe the following social and communication disorders: a) Autistic spectrum condition b) Asperger syndrome c) 'High functioning' autism (HFA)
	1.2 Explain how autism can be considered as a spectrum condition.
	1.3 Explain why it is important to recognise that autism is a lifelong condition
2. Know theories that relate to autism	2.1 Outline the following theoretical models in relation to identifying autism. a) Kanner b) Asperger c) Wing and Gould
	2.2 Explain how the terms 'neurodiverse' and 'neurotypical' are used in relation to autism
3. Know how autism is diagnosed	3.1 Outline the current guidelines for the diagnosis of autism in the UK

	3.2	Describe the difficulties surrounding the diagnosis of autism in relation to: a) Formal diagnosis b) The range of different diagnoses on the spectrum
	3.3	Give reasons why people may be reluctant to seek a diagnosis
	3.4	Explain why it is important for individuals to have a formal diagnosis
	3.5	State the prevalence of autism in the UK
4. Understand the characteristics that may be present in individuals with autism.	4.1	Describe the main characteristics found in individuals with autism
	4.2	Describe how these characteristics can vary from individual to individual
	4.3	Outline what is meant by the 'triad of impairments'
	4.4	Identify positive and negative points of the 'triad of impairments'
5. Know about conditions that commonly co-occur with autism.	5.1	Explain the following conditions that may co-occur with autism: a) Mental ill-health b) Learning disability
	5.2	Describe other conditions that may co-occur with autism
	5.3	Describe the concerns that can arise from these co-occurring conditions
6. Understand common misconceptions surrounding autism.	6.1	Describe how attitudes and lack of understanding can compound the difficulties of individuals with autism
	6.2	Give examples of how autism can be misrepresented in the media
	6.3	Describe how discrimination against individuals with autism can occur inadvertently in society