



Autism and sensory processing in everyday life

Thursday 24 May 2012 - Marriott Renaissance Hotel, Manchester

A one-day conference aimed at developing a greater understanding of sensory processing and how difficulties with sensory integration can impact on people with autism.

Key topics

- > Definitions and development of sensory integration theory
- > Sensory integration dysfunction and how this relates to difficulties in everyday life
- > The evidence base for sensory integration theory
- > Strategies for children in the home and out and about
- > Making your classroom more sensory friendly
- > Strategies for adults at work and in social situations
- > Designing sound case studies and presenting results for maximum effect

Get
our early
booking rate
– register by
13 April 2012

In association with:



Making a difference for 50 years

Autism and sensory processing in everyday life

A one-day conference aimed at developing a greater understanding of sensory processing and how difficulties with sensory integration can impact on people with autism.

Sensory processing describes our ability to take in information through our senses, organise and interpret that information, and make a meaningful response. For most people, sensory integration develops in the course of ordinary childhood activities, but for some people with autism, sensory integration does not develop as efficiently as it should.

People with sensory integration difficulties may be over-sensitive (hypersensitive) or under-sensitive (hyposensitive) in some or all senses. People who are hypersensitive feel as if they're being constantly bombarded with sensory information. Noise, crowded places and being in close proximity to others may cause extreme anxiety. Certain smells and textures can also be overwhelming. Conversely, people who are hyposensitive may seek out sensory stimulation by seeking extreme sensations. They may not notice pain or objects that are too hot or cold, and may need high-intensity input to get involved in activities. Still others have trouble distinguishing between different types of sensory stimulation.

People who struggle to deal with all this information are likely to become stressed or anxious, and possibly feel physical pain. This can result in behaviours that may not, on the surface, seem linked to sensory sensitivities, but could be the underlying cause.

This conference will help to develop a greater understanding of sensory processing and how difficulties with sensory integration can impact on a person with autism. As well as an introduction to sensory processing and sensory integration, our expert speakers will also present an overview of the evidence base, examining the issues around the current research and looking at what research still needs to be done.

In association with:

The Sensory Integration Network is a not-for-profit organisation promoting education, good practice and research into the theory and practice of Ayres' Sensory Integration (SI). The Sensory Integration Network (UK & Ireland) has over 4,500 members, including occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, special educational needs coordinators (SENCO), learning support assistants, service users, teachers, parents and carers. Our aim is to share knowledge, skills and research in SI therapy and provide accessible, accredited training.



Sponsorship and networking opportunities

For bespoke sponsorship packages please contact **Kate Laird** on **020 7923 5734** or email **conference@nas.org.uk**

We will also look at the main sensory integration approaches in practice and how these can be applied in everyday environments, such as at school, in supported living, at work and within the home. It will look at the use of sensory stimuli to encourage and support the development of language and interaction, plus tools and strategies that can be used to create programmes and make simple changes to the environment, so that people with sensory difficulties can live as independently as possible.

This event is a great opportunity to gain an understanding of sensory issues and autism.

Join us to hear experts in the field and gain a wealth of knowledge, plus engage in stimulating debate and exchange new ideas.

Take advantage of our Early Booking rate – book by Friday 13 April and save £50!

Who should attend?

- › Clinicians across the professional field, including psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, paediatricians, GPs and nurses
- › Commissioners for services for people with autism
- › Social workers and support workers
- › Education professionals from mainstream schools, special schools and local authorities
- › Voluntary sector groups and not-for-profit organisations
- › Individuals with autism and their parents, families and carers
- › Occupational therapists

Why attend?

- › gain a full understanding of sensory processing and integration
- › find out the latest research and evidence for sensory integration theory
- › learn practical strategies for supporting people with autism in everyday environments
- › hear first-hand insights on the unique sensory issues experienced by people with autism
- › network with other professionals and experts in the field.

About the organisers

The National Autistic Society (NAS) is the leading UK charity for people with autism (including Asperger syndrome), their families and the professionals who work with them. We provide information, support and pioneering services, and campaign for a better world for people with autism.



Plenary Session

- 09:30 Welcome by the Chairs
- 09:40 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Sensory processing and autism – where's the evidence, what's the research and why does it matter?
Dr Roseann C Schaaf
 Vice Chairman and Associate Professor
 Department of Occupational Therapy
 Thomas Jefferson University
- 10:40 **My sensory day**
Robyn Steward
 Trainer, Speaker, Mentor and Autism Consultant
- 11:20 Refreshment Break
- 12:00 **An introduction to autism and sensory processing - what's it got to do with everyday life, development, learning and behaviour?**
Dr Rohit Shankar
 Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Cornwall Partnership
 NHS Foundation Trust and Hon. Associate Professor
 Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry
- 12:40 Lunch

Stream Sessions

STREAM 1 – PRACTICAL STRATEGIES

- 13:30 **Strategies for children - coping with everyday life and activities**
Alison Neal
 Independent Occupational Therapist
 Alison Neal Occupational Therapy
- 14:00 **Strategies for adults - coping with work and social environments**
Steve McGuinness
 NAS Trustee, Councillor and Autism Consultant
 and
Ros Urwin
 Director – Education Committee
 Sensory Integration Network

14:30 Refreshment Break

- 15:00 **Strategies for teachers – making you and your classroom more sensory friendly**
 Speaker to be confirmed

STREAM 2 – OT PROFESSIONALS

- 13:30 **Designing simple but effective case studies**
Dr Roseann C Schaaf
 Vice Chairman and Associate Professor
 Department of Occupational Therapy
 Thomas Jefferson University
- 14:00 **Bridging the gap: presenting results for maximum impact**
Dr Rohit Shankar
 Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Cornwall Partnership
 NHS Foundation Trust and Hon. Associate Professor
 Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry
 and
Kath Smith
 Occupational Therapist and Lecturer
 Sensory Integration Network

14:30 Refreshment Break

- 15:00 **Case studies around complex scenarios**
Dr Helen Pearce
 Consultant in Developmental Psychiatry
 Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust
 and
Ros Urwin
 Director – Education Committee
 Sensory Integration Network

Plenary Sessions

- 15:30 **Using floortime and intensive interaction**
 Speaker to be confirmed
- 16:10 Closing remarks by the Chairs
- 16:15 Conference ends



The NAS reserves the right to make amendments to the advertised conference programme and speakers.

To register, visit www.autism.org.uk/conferences/sensory2012

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Brochure code:

Rates	Early booking rate Book by 13 April 2012	Standard rate
Delegate rate	<input type="checkbox"/> £175 + VAT	<input type="checkbox"/> £225 + VAT
NAS members		<input type="checkbox"/> £150 + VAT
Individuals on low income*		<input type="checkbox"/> £75 + VAT
Exhibitor rate	<input type="checkbox"/> £395 + VAT	

For full details of what the exhibitor rate includes, please visit the website:
www.autism.org.uk/conferences/sensory2011

* Including people receiving: 1) Income Support 2) Employment Support Allowance
3) Disability Living Allowance 4) Carers Allowance

To make a booking:

www.autism.org.uk/conferences/sensory2012

Email conference@nas.org.uk

Tel 0115 911 3367

Fax 0115 911 3362

Post NAS Conference and Events Team
6th Floor, Castle Heights
72 Maid Marian Way,
Nottingham NG1 6BJ

Please confirm which stream you would like to attend:

Stream 1	<input type="checkbox"/> PRACTICAL STRATEGIES
Stream 2	<input type="checkbox"/> OT PROFESSIONALS

Delegate details

Title	First name	Surname
Job title		Tel
Organisation		Fax
Email		
Keeping in touch with you via email can help to keep our costs down. Please tick this box if you are happy to receive emails from us <input type="checkbox"/>		
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Postcode	Country	

The National Autistic Society would like to update you from time to time in order to inform you about our work.

If you **do not** want to receive any mailings from The National Autistic Society, **please tick this box**

NAS membership number:

Any special requirements

e.g. Access/Dietary/Support/Other?

How did you hear about this conference?

Please write here

Booking contact

If you are booking on behalf of someone else, please provide your contact details here.

Title	First name	Surname
Job title		Tel
Email		

Payment details

CHEQUE

Please find enclosed a cheque for £

Please make all cheques payable to The National Autistic Society

INVOICE Please complete all details below

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Address	
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CREDIT CARD

Card type	Card number	
Start date	Expiry date	Security code (3 digits on reverse)
Name on card		
Signature		

Terms & conditions

Conference fees

All prices include entrance to the conference and seminar sessions, lunch, refreshments and comprehensive delegate documentation. Fees do not include delegate accommodation and travel and The National Autistic Society (NAS) is not responsible for arranging these.

Payment

Payment must be received before the conference date. If payment is not received by this time, delegates will be required to guarantee payment by credit card on the day of the conference. Cheques should be in pounds sterling and should be made payable to "The National Autistic Society".

Cancellations and Refunds

Delegates who wish to cancel their places must do so in writing. If notice of cancellation is received at least 21 days prior to the event, the NAS will refund the full registration fee less £50 administration charge. If notice of cancellation is not received within 21 days prior to the conference, then we regret that no refund can be made.

Substitutions can be made without charge up to 3 days prior to the event.

In the event that the NAS has to cancel the event, delegates will be given as much notice as possible and given a full refund (if paid in full) or a credit note (where payment is not yet made). We regret that we will be unable to compensate delegates for any travel or accommodation costs incurred.

Overseas Delegates

EU countries: Delegates attending from EU countries are exempt from paying VAT only when their organisation is VAT registered within their own country. Confirmation of the VAT registration number is required at the time of booking. Non-EU countries: VAT will be charged on the invoice but you are able to claim back the VAT charge.