Pathological Demand Avoidance and School



**Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)** is increasingly, but not entirely, accepted as a behaviour profile that is seen in some people on the **autistic** spectrum. It is a pervasive developmental disorder, that is, it affects all areas of development. It was first identified in 2003, but is still not currently recognised nor acknowledged in many diagnostic tools for autism. PDA is a complex, challenging and misunderstood condition that is often ignored or not even recognised by many professionals. It is worth noting that strategies which are helpful for learners with autistic spectrum disorders are often not useful in cases of PDA. Those who present with this particular diagnostic profile are driven to avoid everyday demands and expectations to an extreme extent, stemming from an anxiety-based need to be in control.

It can be difficult for educators to understand how best to support pupils with PDA, because traditional management techniques such as structure, routine and rewards that often work for pupils with other autism profiles are generally ineffective. However, it is vital that educators recognise and identify children who may have PDA because early diagnosis, support and intervention is crucial for the best short and long-term outlooks for the child. The correct support and understanding in school also reduces the pressure on teachers and staff.

On this one day workshop, delegates will learn about what PDA is, the core characteristics of PDA and developing strategies and interventions for children and young people with PDA. We shall also explore the interface between PDA and developmental trauma, as children with attachment difficulties show many similarities to those with PDA.

**About the trainer**

Dr Jennifer Nock is an Educator and Chartered Psychologist, with four decades of experience working with children and young people, their families and educators. She is passionate about supporting educators and parents to better understand mental health, behaviour and relationships, and to view children and young people through a developmental lens.

For additional information, and testimonials from our clients please visit our website: <http://www.jennifernocktrainingandconsultancy.com/>

**We anticipate high levels of interest. Please book early to secure your place**

**Date: Tuesday 12th May 2020** 9.30 to 3.00 (registration from 9am).

**Venue**: Holiday Inn Express Derry-Londonderry, 31 Strand Road, Derry, BT48 7BL

**Fee:** £140 +VAT for first delegate; £120 +VAT for each additional delegate.

To reserve your place, call Jennifer Nock on 07983 482 804/01384 392599; E-mail [jnock@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jnock@hotmail.co.uk); or complete and post the booking form below. Please complete a separate form for each delegate.

Please note that this workshop can be tailored to meet the specific needs of your staff and can be delivered as a full- or part-day INSET session in your setting. Contact us for more information.

**Application form, PDA and SChool Tuesday 12th May 2020**

**Please complete in block capitals**

**NB: CANCELLATION POLICY: IF YOU CANCEL YOUR PLACE ON THE course after**

**Thursday 7th May 2020 you will be charged the full fee**

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| **Name of delegate:** | **School/organisation name and address:** |
| **Role:** | **Email:** |
| **Date: Tuesday 12th May 2020, 9.30AM to 3.00pm**  **Venue: Holiday Inn Express Derry-Londonderry, 31 Strand Road, Derry, BT48 7BL**  **Fee: £140+VAT for first delegate, £120+VAT for Each additional delegatE** | |
| **Do you have any dietary or access requirements? If yes, please give brief details.** | |

**I enclose a cheque for £……………………… made payable to Jennifer Nock**

**TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY**

**Please invoice the school or other organisation**

**Authorised signature (+ Name in Block Caps.): …………………**