

Neurodiversity in Children Matters

Understanding Neurodiversity in Children	<p>Neurodiversity is one of the most misunderstood aspects of the human experience. It is often first recognised in childhood. In a school system designed for the neurotypical, those whose brains work differently are often thought of from the perspective of what they can't do. However, given the right support, these children will often grow into out-of-the-box thinkers that move our world forward. In this session, we will talk about what it means to be neurodivergent.</p>
Managing Behaviour	<p>Discovering that your child has special needs can sometimes make a parent feel scared and helpless. When a child has special needs, parents are often at a loss when it comes to behaviour management. Children may need special assistance to deal with the world around them but also need to have structure and rules to feel safe and secure. In this session, we will discuss how and when to intervene when a special needs child is having a difficult time.</p>
Autism	<p>Autism diagnoses in children are on the rise with 1 in 100 children in the UK being diagnosed. This brass-tacks session will give you the truth about how to redefine positive parenting, manage the highs and lows and really learn to love the quirky world of Autistic children.</p>
ADHD	<p>Being a parent of an ADHD child can be like a roller coaster sometimes. This particular brand of neurodivergence by its nature is unpredictable at times. However, with the right strategies and levels of understanding, parents will share a bond with fiercely loyal and wonderfully fantastic children.</p>
Dyslexia	<p>As a parent, it can feel very frustrating when you see that your child is struggling with academics or extracurricular activities. This session will take a look at Dyslexia and how it manifests in our children. It will look at the whole child to help identify strengths, areas of support and ways to help.</p>
Dyspraxia	<p>Dyspraxia is the 2nd most common neurodivergence diagnosis. It involves fine and gross motor skills as well as executive functioning. This session will show the many ways dyspraxia shows up and how to support children to achieve success their way.</p>
Giftedness	<p>Giftedness comes with the complexity and intensity that often challenge conventional systems (family, school, work). We delve into the heightened need for intellectual stimulation, challenges such as impatience and perfectionism, emotional and creative outlets, and the quest for innovation and meaning.</p>
Carers of Neurodiverse Children	<p>Carers of neurodivergent (ND) children have a unique experience. The highs are really high and the lows can feel quite low. The needs of these carers are as unique as the needs of their children. The demands on time as well as physical, emotional and financial resources ebb and flow very strongly. In this session, we will discuss the carer's perspective and how to best support them in the workplace.</p>
Understanding Behaviour	<p>Parents of neurodivergent children are asked to show up in ways others cannot imagine. The rules and expectations for parenting change on a regular basis. They need to show up for their children and for their job. They can often feel misunderstood and even judged by those who simply do not have the right information. This session is designed to bridge the gap between experience, understanding and action.</p>

Neurodiversity and the parent experience	Parents of neurodivergent children are asked to show up in ways others cannot imagine. The rules and expectations for parenting change on a regular basis. They need to show up for their children and for their job. They can often feel misunderstood and even judged by those who simply do not have the right information. This session is designed to bridge the gap between experience, understanding and action.
Siblings of Neurodiverse Children	Siblings of neurodivergent people have very unique life experiences. They grow up with a broader understanding of the vast tapestry of human experience. However, as some of their siblings need extra time and attention to help them navigate the world, parents often worry that their neurotypical siblings get less time to have their needs met. In this session, we will discuss what it means to be the 'typical' one in the dynamic.



Speaker Bio Gwen Jones

Gwen has an MSc in Occupational Psychology focusing on Workplace Wellbeing. She is a trained psychotherapist, relationship therapist and coach working with people all over the world to reduce anxiety and have happier, healthier lives. Gwen has worked with Educating Matters for 8 years speaking about DEI and Wellbeing. She studied Psychology at the University of Utah and then trained to become a teacher in Special Education, working with children with severe behavioural disorders, autism and the at risk population. She has trained many educators on behaviour management and cultural awareness. Gwen has taught in the USA and the UK. A mother of 4, she is very active in her children's schools. Political activism has always played a strong role in her life in causes such as: LGBT marriage rights, Animal Conservation, and Voter Registration.

