

Bents Green Learning Community

**Supporting development of a positive sense of self
with pupils with autism**

Half Day Thrive Conference

Thursday 6th April 2017

9.30am to 2.00pm

(Lunch 1.00pm-2.00pm)

Bents Green Specialist Secondary School

Ringinglow Road

Sheffield S11 7TB

Research evidence suggests that pupils with autism experience significant issues in the development of a positive sense of self. Problems with identifying who you are and finding your place in the world can lead to feelings of anxiety, depression, anger and despair. All of these are barriers to learning and achievement. This event will explore how and why these problems might arise and together we will suggest ways of working that might enable the development of a more positive sense of self. Thrive is growing in popularity as an approach to enable children's social and emotional well-being. Together we will evaluate its potential to support pupils with autism

The cost for this event is:

£50.00 Professionals

£10.00 Parent/Carer

£5.00 University/College Student

There are a limited number of free places for people with autism or parents and carers who otherwise could not attend.

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Conference Programme

Audience: Parents/Carers/Family Members and Practitioners in Education, Health and Social Care who support children and young people with autism

9.00 - 9.30 am	Registration and Refreshments
9.30 - 9.45 am	Welcome Heather Partington and Sally Haslingden, Deputy Headteachers, Bents Green School
9.45 - 10.15 am	Identifying the barriers to developing a positive sense of self for pupils with autism Emma Rice, PhD researcher, The Autism Centre, Sheffield Hallam University.
10.15 - 11.15 am	Thrive By Viv Trask-Hall, Regional Development Manager for Thrive Thrive is becoming established as an approach that can support effectively the social and emotional well-being of children. This presentation will set out the history, philosophy, principles and practices of Thrive.
11.15 - 11.30 am	Refreshments
11.30am - 12.15pm	Evaluating the applicability of Thrive for pupils with autism. The session will involve round table discussion for delegates to evaluate whether and how Thrive might be a useful approach for pupils with autism. This will be facilitated by Viv Trask-Hall and Dr. Coral Harper.
12.15 -12.45pm	School engagement with development of a sense of self By Professor Nick Hodge from The Autism Centre at Sheffield Hallam University This presentation will report on a project between The Autism Centre, Sheffield Hallam University and four schools that explored how staff in schools understand and respond to development of a sense of self with pupils with autism.
12.45 -1.00pm	Closing remarks by Heather Partington, Sally Haslingden and Nick Hodge
1.00 – 2.00pm	Buffet lunch

