

Training Courses for Teachers and Educational Professionals



Do you have a child with Down's syndrome joining your nursery or school? Do you already have children with Down's syndrome at your school or are they transferring to your class?

If you answered Yes to any of the question above, we are here to support to you.

We are here to support all professionals who work to support a child, young person or adult with Down's syndrome.

Professional Development (CPD) accredited training courses

We provide CPD accredited training, support and information to nurseries and schools in all 32 local authorities across Scotland.

We offer bespoke training on topics specific to your nursery or school, in-person individual consultation support and popular and in-demand flexible learning modules:

- Including and Supporting a child with Down's syndrome in your Nursery or School
- Teaching Numbers and Everyday Maths skills
- Teaching Reading using the Whole Word Approach
- Understanding and Supporting Behaviour that Communicates
- Improving Communication Skills
- Introduction to Makaton

Let us support you as you support children and young people with Down's syndrome to reach their fullest potential.

If you would like to book this training or discuss it further

 0300 030 2121

 familysupportservice@dsscotland.org.uk

Online Interactive Modules

Each of our four online modules lasts 1 hour and will be held on Zoom.

A delegate place on each module is £45.

With each of these sessions there will be time to ask questions and discuss your experiences. You can find details on how to book below.

Module 1: Meeting the learning needs of children with Down's syndrome in your school/ nursery

This module aims to ensure you feel confident to positively include and meet the specific learning needs of children and young people with Down's syndrome in your nursery or school.

Module content:

- An overview of Down's syndrome and associated features and health issues that affect learning and development
- Development and learning profile of children with Down's syndrome
- Effective strategies to positively support inclusion and tailor learning to meet specific needs



Module 2: Teaching Reading using the Whole Word Approach

This module expands on the learning covered in module 1, specifically looking at how to teach children with Down's syndrome to read and how this positively supports language development.

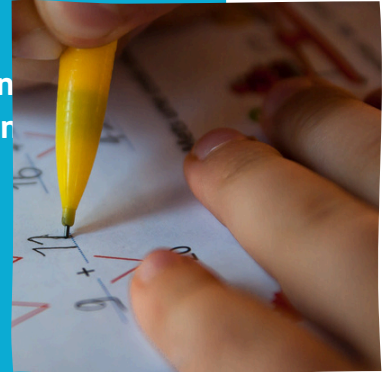
Module content:

- Using the whole word approach and exploring strategies using this approach to teach reading
- How phonics can support the whole word approach
- The importance of teaching reading and its impact on "talking"



Module 3: Teaching Numbers and Everyday Maths Skills

This session further expands on the learning covered in modules 1&2, specifically looking at how to support children with Down's syndrome learn about numbers and maths skills through the use of key learning principles and effective teaching strategies.



Module content:

- The relationship between Language and Numeracy
- Identify the basic Numeracy principles and how to teach these skills separately
- Explore strategies to support children with Down's syndrome with their development of numeracy & mathematics skills
- Understand the importance of the relationship between Numeracy skills and independent living.

Module 4: Understanding and Supporting Behaviour that Communicates

This module is aimed at teachers and support staff to support with understanding and positively supporting communication behaviour of children and young people with Down's syndrome.



Module content:

- What causes behaviour that may be perceived as challenging or difficult to manage
- How our values influence how we perceive behaviour
- How to undertake a functional approach to supporting behaviour by identifying its function and developing an individualised positive support plan
- How to teach alternative and more appropriate behaviours to communicate and the importance of effective communication and visual supports

How to Book

These sessions can be booked directly via our website [here](#).

If you would like any further information or have any questions about these modules please contact our Support Service team on 0300 030 2121 or email familysupportservice@dsscotland.org.uk.

Dedicated Consultation session

Our bespoke consultation service can support you with specific guidance or information related to the development or learning for a child with Down's syndrome and provide practical and effective strategies to positively support their inclusion in your school or nursery. A dedicated, in-person consultation visit includes observation of an individual child within a nursery/school environment and a feedback and support session with key staff. These sessions can also include support with how to differentiate curriculum learning materials and a written feedback consultation summary report is provided.

Cost: £200 (plus travel expenses)

Tailored Bespoke Training sessions

We are here to help teachers and educational support staff with meeting the support needs and positively including children and young people with Down's syndrome in nursery or school.

We offer tailored bespoke training on topics and situations specific to your needs. Our CPD accredited interactive sessions can be delivered for your staff team either online or in-person and provide opportunity to discuss the specific support needs of a child in your setting. Our Teaching Numeracy and Teaching Reading modules are particularly geared to help you differentiate the curriculum for a child with Down's Syndrome in your educational setting.

These sessions can accommodate up to 20 members of staff which can be delivered as after-school twilight sessions or during an in-service day. The cost for each CPD module if booked separately is £130/module and we offer a discounted price of £450 if you book for all 4 CPD modules to be delivered. To discuss your bespoke needs of training please email familysupportservice@dsscotland.org.uk.

"We have had several consultation visits over the last three years. All really helpful and informative. Great practical strategies and suggestions to move us forward."

Additional Support Needs Leader

"I previously thought, 'What are they going to tell us about Down's syndrome?' But I left with a massive increase in the understanding and lots of strategies."
Primary School Teacher

Diversity Talks

Our Family Support Team also offer free Diversity Talks at assembly all ages of pupils from Primary through to Secondary.

We talk about what Down's syndrome is and answer any questions the children may have. We also celebrate how everyone is different and unique, we talk about different learning styles, communication, successes and challenges and how we can all support each other regardless of our differences.



“Excellent presentation at a very appropriate level. Relevant information from an expert in the field.” - Secondary School Teacher

If you would like to book a talk for your school please call or email

 0300 030 2121

 familysupportservice@dsscotland.org.uk

An Introduction to Communication Skills and Makaton Workshops...

Makaton involves the use of signs, symbols and speech to help children and adults communicate and to aid spoken language.

The techniques and strategies in these sessions are drawn from research findings on the learning style and specific profile of language development in children with Down's syndrome, and are designed to support the development of key elements of communication.

These sessions also include an introduction to the Makaton language programme and how this can support communication.

In the workshop we explore:

- An introduction to this unique language programme
- Communication strengths and delays common to people with Down's syndrome
- Techniques to support communication of children and young people with Down's syndrome in and out of the classroom
- Strategies to improve speech clarity
- Strategies to improve working memory and improve communication skills – leading to increased social confidence and minimising isolation

We can deliver Makaton Workshops and Improving Communication Skills Training for professionals and club volunteers or personal support assistants at early years, primary and secondary levels and beyond.

Sessions can accommodate up to 15 participants and can be delivered online or *in-person (*distance depending) at a time and date to suit you. Cost of £150 for a 1.5 hour session.

We deliver bespoke and Seasonal Makaton Workshops also for early years and primary teachers to learn new signs, songs and signed stories that you can incorporate into your daily learning and activities.

Here's what previous participants said..

"I thought the training was very good. I felt I was on a 1 to 1 on the screen with her showing us the signing, slowly, repetitive, informative, and encouraging us to gain confidence quickly to learn them."

"One of the most beneficial pieces of training I've accessed during my time as an EYP."

"This type of training would be excellent for all teachers. Very informative and I'll definitely be recommending for other teachers. Thank you!"

How to book

We have a programme of generic training dates throughout the year. To book a place [click here](#).

You can also book bespoke Makaton or Communication Skills workshop with our in-house Makaton tutor Katy Lironi contact her by calling 07770 019468 via email at abc@dsscotland.org.uk.