

ASSESSING & TEACHING SOCIAL SKILLS

A 2 day training course

By

Alex Kelly

Speech Pathologist (UK)

Author of TALKABOUT Resources

GOLD COAST

2nd – 3rd March 2016

Hosted by Therapy Matters

The importance of being socially skilled cannot be over-estimated. We all need these skills to communicate effectively in order to listen to others, to express ourselves, to be taken seriously and to make friends. We know that social competence contributes to quality of life and has been repeatedly demonstrated to be a critical variable in predicting success in future life however, not all children develop social competence naturally. Some children struggle with their social skills and require intervention.

This workshop will help you to answer these important questions about social skills:

- **Assessment... Where do I start?**
- **Intervention... How can I teach social skills?**
- **Evaluation... How can I measure progress?**



Outline of the Course

The 2 days will introduce you to social skills and what can be done about social skills difficulties. It covers how to assess social skills, set up and run social skills groups effectively and use other methods of social skills interventions such as media and stories. It is a practical and interactive course and so you will not only come away with the theory on how to work with children in the most effective way, but you will also come away with the confidence to start working with children immediately. Alex uses a mixture of lecturing, videos and practical exercises to keep you engaged, interested and amused.

Day 1

The first day focuses on assessment and reassessment and includes:

- An introduction to social skills
- Assessing social skills and planning where to start
- The theory behind the hierarchy of skills
- Practical exercises in assessing social skills & planning intervention
- Setting targets and measuring effectiveness

Day 2

The second day focuses on all aspects of intervention and includes:

- Teaching social skills and the 4 step approach: behaviour, rules, motivation and strategy
- Using the environment, peers, visual cues, video modelling, social stories & comic strips to teach social skills
- Setting up & running social skills groups
- Using modelling and role play
- Practical ideas for teaching social skills

Who is this training course suitable for?

This training course is suitable for all allied health professionals and teaching staff and is aimed at all individuals who work with children or adults with social skills difficulties. This may include speech pathologists, teachers, occupational therapists, teacher aides, psychologists and it may also be of interest to parents.



A bit about Alex Kelly



Alex is a speech and language therapist with 30 years' experience of working with people with social skills difficulties. She is the author of the best-selling TALKABOUT resources and she lectures around the world.

She spent 23 years working in the NHS in England and left in 2009 to run her own business, Alex Kelly Ltd. Her company provides training and consultancy work in social skills and communication and it also provides speech and language therapy into over 34 local schools.

She also has set up a new service in the UK called 'Speaking Space'. Speaking Space is a Day Service for adults with an intellectual disability and/or autism that focuses on developing social communication and independence. It has been open since 2011 and is run by a team of speech & language therapists and communication support workers. It is the first of its kind in the UK and is gaining a national reputation for its work.

Alex is well known for being an inspirational trainer and this will be her fourth visit to Australia.

A bit about Amy Green



Amy Green has worked for Alex since 2010 as a specialist speech therapist in social skills. She works closely with Alex in providing training and consultancy to schools. Amy has lots of experience in implementing social skills groups into schools – both using a curriculum, whole school approach and a targeted one. She also helps schools to set targets and measure the effectiveness of what they are doing.

Amy also helps Alex with her writing and her research. She is acknowledged in most of the new Talkabout books and co-authored the

'Talkabout for Adults' book for use with adults with an intellectual disability.

She lectures around the UK and consistently receives feedback for her enthusiasm and style of delivery. This will be her second visit to Australia.



A message from Therapy Matters ...

Therapy Matters is proud to be welcoming Alex Kelly and Amy Green for the first time to Queensland's Gold Coast. Our speech pathologists returned from Alex's last social skills workshop in Australia, 2 years ago, feeling motivated and empowered. Alex was a vibrant, engaging and inspirational presenter who was generous and practical with her ideas, activities and suggestions. We are very excited to offer others the opportunity to see Alex speak on her return visit to Australia.

We are also pleased to showcase the Gold Coast by holding this training course at a magnificent venue allowing participants to enjoy the surrounds of Currumbin Beach and soak in the magnificent 180 degree views of the Gold Coast and skylines. There are plenty of accommodation choices for participants within walking distance of the venue.



Venue... Currumbin Beach Vikings Surf Life Saving Club
741 Pacific Parade
Currumbin, Gold Coast QLD

Cost ... Early Bird Registration (before 8/1/16) \$660
Full Registration (after 9/1/16) \$725
Parent Registration \$460

Gst inclusive and includes workshop materials, morning/afternoon tea and lunch

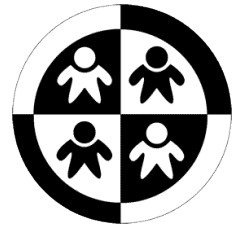
Contact us ...Therapy Matters
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Web: www.therapymatters.com.au





SOCIAL SKILLS

Registration Form



Workshop by Alex Kelly and Amy Green

2nd – 3rd March, 2016

9.00 – 4.30 (Registration from 8.45)

Currumbin Beach Vikings Surf Life Saving Club, Gold Coast

Early Bird Registration (before 8/1/16)

\$660

Full Registration (after 9/1/16)

\$725

Parent Registration

\$460

Title: _____ First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Postal Address : _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email Address: _____

Special Dietary Requirements: _____

PAYMENT DETAILS

<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque	Make cheques payable to Therapy Matters
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct Deposit	Account Name: Therapy Matters BSB: 114-879 Account No.: 106072213 Use your name/organisation as payment reference. Please email remittance details to workshops@therapymatters.com.au
<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card	Name on card _____ Credit Card No. _____ CVV No. _____ Expiry Date ___/___
<input type="checkbox"/> Invoice my Organisation	Name of Organisation _____ Purchase Order no: _____ Attention _____ Email address _____

Post, email or fax registration form to:

Therapy Matters

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