

Naomi Hogben – Post Training Report

The FPSA kindly funded me to train to use the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule – Second Edition (ADOS-2), facilitated by Pearson and completed over two days 14th and 15th January 2025 via Zoom.

I had a positive experience of the training and found the facilitators to be exceptionally engaging, I was a little apprehensive due to the course being facilitated online and the amount of content being covered, however thoroughly enjoyed the two days. The training was well structured, with time spent demonstrating each of the five modules, with opportunities for questions and time spent practicing coding using videoed assessments. The scoring was also discussed with attention paid to ‘common pitfalls’ or ‘blind spots’ when coding. I found the opportunities to practice coding extremely helpful and have found particularly useful the access Pearson provides to videos of assessments online and scoring sheets to further practice my coding skills. This helped to build my confidence of the assessment and scoring process prior to using the assessment clinically.

I work as a Clinical Psychologist within a CAMHS NHS service, and the training has allowed me to be part of a multi-disciplinary team completing Autism assessment clinics. During the COVID-19 pandemic assessments of Autism had to be halted, creating a back-log of young people on the waiting list, the service I work for have been working hard to work through this waitlist and provide timely, and in-depth assessments. The training has also been valuable in increasing my knowledge of the strengths and difficulties a young person with Autism may present with and this has positively impacted upon my clinical practice outside of the assessment clinics too.

I would recommend the FPSA and Pearson training to anyone who would like to access the ADOS-2 training and increase their knowledge of the Autism assessment process.