



The National  
Autistic Society



In association with:

**NORSACA**  
quality of life for people with autism

# Pathological Demand Avoidance

**Wednesday 23 November 2011** - Renaissance City Centre Hotel, Manchester

Providing professionals and parents with a clearer understanding of the diagnostic criteria and essential strategies for education, behaviour management and communication.

## Featuring:

- > **Professor Francesca Happé, Institute of Psychiatry**
- > **Phil Christie, The Elizabeth Newson Centre**
- > **Ruth Fidler, Sutherland House School**
- > **Dr Judith Gould, The NAS Lorna Wing Centre for Autism**



Endorsed by:



Accept difference. Not indifference.

[www.autism.org.uk/conferences/PDA2011](http://www.autism.org.uk/conferences/PDA2011)

# Conference programme

Wednesday 23 November 2011 - Renaissance City Centre Hotel, Manchester

09.30 **Welcome by the Chairperson**

**Professor Barry Carpenter**

Director, Complex Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Research Project, SSAT/DFE

09.45 **Towards a better understanding of PDA**

- What is PDA and how does it present in individuals?
- Where does it fit on the autism spectrum?
- Developing clearer diagnostic understandings: defining criteria and diagnostic classification
- Post-diagnosis – what next?

**Phil Christie**

Consultant Child Psychologist and Director  
The Elizabeth Newson Centre

10.35 **Living with PDA - the parent perspective**

- What it is like living with PDA
- Why getting a diagnosis matters
- Effect on siblings and strategies to manage behaviour within the home
- About the PDA Contact Forum

**Dr Margo Duncan**

National Coordinator, PDA Contact Forum

11.10 **Refreshment break**

11.40 **New research ideas and questions about PDA**

- The puzzle of PDA
- Exploring PDA traits in existing data from a large population-based twin sample
- Future research into the cognitive profile underlying PDA

**Professor Francesca Happé**

Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience, MRC SGDP Centre Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London and

**Liz O'Nions**

Postgraduate research student, MRC SGDP Centre Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London

12.30 **Lunch**

13.30 **Educational provision and teaching approaches for children with PDA**

- Understanding children with PDA as learners
- Adapting teaching styles to aid learning
- Strategies for managing behaviour
- Promoting social and emotional well being for children with PDA

**Ruth Fidler**

Assistant Head, Sutherland House School and

**Phil Christie**

Consultant Child Psychologist and Director  
The Elizabeth Newson Centre

14.45 **Refreshment break**

15.15 **Developing a county-wide response to PDA**

**Dr Jacqueline Morgan**

Associate Specialist in Neuro-developmental Paediatrics Winchester and Eastleigh NHS Trust and

**Dr Natalie Roberts**

Clinical Psychologist, Winchester and Eastleigh NHS Trust

15.50 **Women and girls with PDA**

**Dr Jacqui Ashton-Smith**

Principal, Helen Allison School and

**Dr Judith Gould**

Director, NAS Lorna Wing Centre for Autism

16.30 **Closing remarks by the Chairperson and conference end**

The NAS reserves the right to make amendments to the advertised conference programme and speakers.

For more information and to register, visit

[www.autism.org.uk/conferences/PDA2011](http://www.autism.org.uk/conferences/PDA2011)

