



North Eastern Autism Support Group



The Bridge Project

Workshop #1: INTRODUCTION TO VERBAL BEHAVIOR

9 – 11th March, 2005
Park Hotel, Mullingar,
Co. West Meath
8:30-9 registration, 9-5 workshop

Dr Carbone's first Verbal Behaviour workshop in Ireland.

This workshop focuses on the behavioural approach to teaching communication skills to children with autism and other developmental disabilities. This approach is based on B.F. Skinner's analysis of verbal behaviour and the research of Michael, Sundberg, Partington, and others. Participants in this workshop learn,

To conduct a Behavioural Language Assessment,

- To select the most appropriate form of communication for a child (vocal, signing, pointing to or exchanging pictures, or activating an augmentative device),
- To select the communication responses and supporting skills that should be taught first.
- The workshop includes the recommended teaching procedures for those children who have no formal communication skills to those that are near conversational speakers.
- The presenter also describes and demonstrates *errorless teaching, specific quick-transfer (prompting and fading) procedures, and the use of both discrete trial training in the natural environment and during intensive teaching session.*
- Many videotape demonstrations are provided to illustrate the methods to increase spontaneous language and to develop conversational skills.

Why Verbal Behaviour - In the past most ABA programs implemented for children with autism were based on the work published by Ivar Lovaas in the 1980's. However, during those years Jack Michael PhD, Mark Sundberg PHD and James Partington PHD among others in the field, focused on researching BF Skinner's Analysis of Verbal Behaviour and its effectiveness of teaching language skills. This research has improved ABA programs by emphasizing the important elements in language acquisition previously ignored by traditional Lovaas-based programs. *That is, capturing a child's motivation to develop a connection between the value of a word and the word itself. The Verbal Behaviour approach focuses on teaching specific components of expressive language first. Lovaas based approaches use ABA to teach language skills based on the premise that receptive language should be developed prior to expressive language.

Another difference lies within the emphasis of "function" (Verbal Behaviour) of language instead of "form" (Lovaas-based) – e.g., in a VB program, a child is first taught to ask for a "sweet" any way they can (vocally, sign language, etc.) only when they actually want a "sweet". They capture that desire for a sweet and turn it into the lesson that the word (or sign) for a sweet will get you what you want.... A sweet! In a Lovaas-based program, the child may be taught to say the word "sweet" while other words are repeatedly taught but not necessarily when the child wants a sweet at that moment.

Parents, Teachers, Tutors, SNA's, Carers, SLT's/OT's, & Consultants...

- Has your child or student with autism or other developmental disabilities acquired some receptive language but almost no expressive language?
- Has your child acquired vocal imitation, but no spontaneous words or phrases?
- Does your child or student follow directions and remain on-task, but almost never spontaneously communicate?
- Does your student label many items in his environment, but almost never spontaneously request anything or engage in conversation?
- Does your child run the other direction when he sees a table, or chair, and a teacher?
- Does your child or student exhibit aggressive or self-injurious behavior and very few communication skills?
- Does your child's or student's language sound scripted?

If any of the above applies, then this workshop is for you!

Presenter:

Dr Vincent Carbone is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst with over 25 years of experience designing learning environments for people with autism and development disabilities. He has been chosen by his colleagues to sit on the Florida Peer Review Committee, which monitors and guides the provision of behavior analysis services for persons with autism and related developmental disabilities in Florida.

Dr. Carbone serves as an adjunct faculty member at Penn State University, Florida Atlantic University, and Florida Institute of Technology, teaching courses in Applied Behaviour Analysis and Verbal Behaviour. His behaviour analytic research has been published in several peer-reviewed journals, and he has presented over 75 scholarly papers and invited workshops at professional meetings during the past five years. He has provided the preparatory training and clinical consultation to hundreds of certified behaviour analysts in several states. His research and clinical expertise is in the area of functional assessment and the design and implementation of teaching programs for persons with autism, with special emphasis upon teaching verbal behaviour to the most difficult to instruct learners. He is the developer and presenter of a series of workshops on teaching verbal behaviour to children with autism based upon B.F. Skinner's analysis of verbal behaviour. He is currently working with several school districts, agencies, and many families throughout the United States, including Puerto Rico, and is presently providing services to people in Canada and the United Kingdom.

Details:

€400 for Professionals
€300 Parents & Students
Includes Lunch &
Tea/coffee

We strongly advise to book early as it is first come, first serve. Places are limited. Payment in full & non-refundable. We are a registered charity for Autism. We look forward to seeing you at the workshop!

Please make cheques payable to NEASG and return with registration form to:

**Dorothy Biddulph, 23 Meadowlands,
Athboy, Co. Meath, Ireland
Tel: +353 46 9430277**

**email: info@neasg.com or
dorothybiddulph@eircom.net
Website: <http://www.neasg.com>**

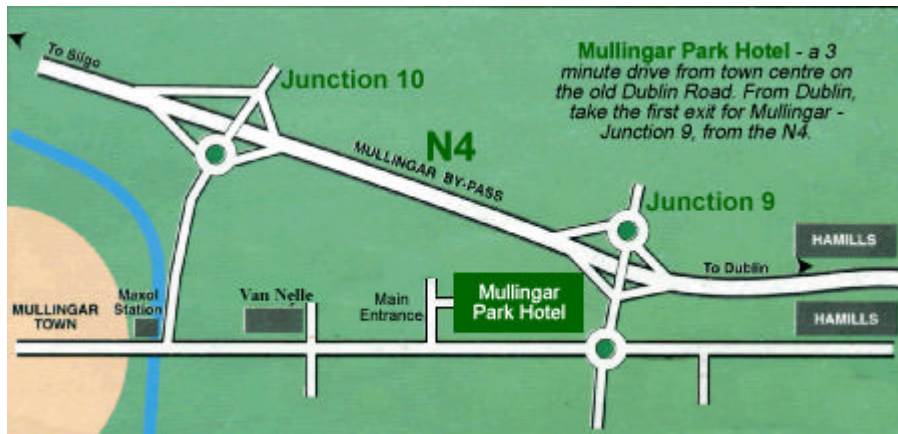
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Accommodation

The Park Hotel Mullingar. Dublin Rd. Mullingar Tel: +353 (0) 44 375000 Fax: +353 (0)44 35937
Email: sales@mullingarparkhotel.com
Single B&B €80, Double/twin B&B €150
Includes full use of leisure & fitness facilities.

Bed & Breakfast accommodation:

Martinstown Court. Dublin Rd. Mullingar. Tel: (0)44 40053 B&B, single €45, Double/twin €65.
McCormack's B&B, Dublin Rd. Mullingar. Tel (0)44 41483, single €40, Double/twin €45.
Mary Lunch Pub. Dublin Rd. Mullingar. Tel: (0)44 74501.
Prospect B&B. Dublin Rd. Mullingar. Tel: (0)44 31867
Deane's. Novara Hse, Dublin Rd, Mullingar. Tel: (0)44 35209



Directions to The Mullingar Park Hotel

From Dublin/Kinnegad

1st exit off N4 into Mullingar and the hotel is after the roundabout on the right hand side.

From Athlone/Galway

Through Mullingar – take Dublin road at the centre of town drive approx.

1half mile and the hotel will be on the left hand side before you go onto the N4.

From Sligo/Longford

Keep on the N4 for Dublin take the 3rd exit for Mullingar marked as junction 9.
You will see the hotel on the right hand side.

From Tullamore

From Tullamore take N52 to Kilbeggan and follow signs for Mullingar. When you arrive in Mullingar turn right at the first set of traffic lights and follow the road out towards Dublin and we are on the Left hand side.

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