

## "Communication for Life"

### A workshop on meeting the communication challenges of teenage years and young adulthood.

***A Workshop for families and professionals supporting children and young people with Down syndrome from age 9 to young adulthood***

**Led by:** **Leela Baksi**, specialist speech and language therapist, Symbol UK Ltd

This course looks at the communication issues in the context of adolescence. It will explore ideas and strategies that can support communication around key themes for teenagers and young adults, focusing on the strengths and challenges associated with Down syndrome.

**Course outline**

**Adolescence, young people who have Down syndrome, and communication skills: challenges and opportunities** - What does research tell us about the communication skills of young people who have DS?

**Living and working with communication impairment: common issues and what we can do about them**

Key areas to address and strategies : learning words and achieving clearer speech; vocabulary, language scripts, grammar and narrative skills; personal presentation skills; Too much/not enough talking! Self talk, and selective mutism- why might it happen and what we can do about it?

**Visual scaffolding to support thinking skills**

Some examples of visuals that support communication as young people move towards adulthood

This course is designed for a mixed audience of parents and family members and school and college staff including teaching assistants, teachers, and other practitioners including speech and language therapists. There will be opportunities to discuss issues and plans for individuals during workshop-style sessions.

**Date: Wednesday 31st January 2018, Time: 9.30 am to 4pm**

**Venue: St Albans Girls' School, Sandridgebury Lane, St Albans AL3 6DB**

**Cost:** £25 for schools and other professionals. £10 for parents/carers.

Tea and coffee provided, please bring your own lunch.

Places are limited so please book, by completing the tear off slip and return with cheque to: DSPL Administration, c/o STAGS, Sandridgebury Lane, St Albans AL3 6DB

On site parking available in **Visitors Car Park** only please.



Name(s) of Attendee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Communication - 31st Jan 2018

For Schools - Name & Address:

OR

for Parent(s) - Address:

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Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**NB: Please make cheques payable to St Albans Girls' School**

