How do I apply for a place?

Families can self refer by completing an application form. Once you have completed and returned the application form you will receive further information regarding the next available course.

How much does it cost to attend SWiFT?

The cost for 6 sessions, materials and resources:

Per family: £100.00 Per school: £120.00

Schools will be invoiced directly. Families can be given the option of paying by instalments. Concessions may be available. We recommend schools attend all 6 sessions, but there is also the option of attending single sessions at a cost of £60 per session.

For application forms contact 01865 323070 SENBST.Training@oxfordshire.gov.uk

The skills and strategies learnt will be relevant to those living and working with children across the autism spectrum.

Comments from people who have attended courses where parents and schools work and learn together:

"The course has given me more confidence and helped build a fantastic relationship with the school too!"

"I found the time we spent together on the course invaluable as I now have much more insight into E's difficulties at home."

"The most useful thing was improving communication with K's Mum to allow us to share ideas and tactics."

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A course for families and schools living and working with children who have autism and communication difficulties

Special Educational Needs
Support Services
Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
Oxford OX1 1ND



More about SWiFT

Six sessions of 2.5 hours each week.

Each session covers a topic specific to autism and communication and interaction difficulties.

Sessions one the following topics:-

- Understanding challenges and strengths
- Communication
- Emotional well-being
- Learning
- Behaviour
- Positive behavior support

Workshop style sessions will encourage sharing experiences and strategies within a positive and supportive environment.

Sessions will be led by specialist Advisory Teachers with considerable experience of working with schools and families where there is a child with autism or communication and interaction difficulties.

What can I expect to gain by attending a SWiFT course?

- An increased understanding of ASD and related Communication and Interaction difficulties
- You will learn how to boost self confidence, self-esteem, resilience and promote wellbeing in your child
- You will build an individual profile of your child
- You will develop a toolkit of general and bespoke strategies to support behaviour and achievement across the spectrum
- You will foster links and build positive relationships between schools and families
- You will also meet other families with children with similar needs

Who can attend a SWiFT course?

Families with one or more child aged between 5 and 12 with autism or communication and interaction difficulties. Each family is allocated 3 places, usually 2 for the family and 1 for the child's school.

Who can attend from school?

Any member of staff working with the child such as teaching assistant, SENCO, home school link worker, inclusion co-ordinator, class teacher.

Who can attend from the family?

At least one parent, carer or guardian and anyone else closely involved in the care of the child e.g. grandparent, older sibling, close friend or child minder.