# Slaveia Christoff Kouchalieva, MSc, BCBA

Consultant Behaviour Psychologist

The Nightingale Team

**CONTACTS** 

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PROFIL

A creative problem solver with professional interpersonal skills and a hands-on approach in all aspects of team and individual work. Specialist in communication training and promoting Positive Behaviour Support. Passionate about the best outcome and quality of life for each child and family.

An established independent ABA/VB (Applied Behavioural Analysis and Verbal Behaviour) Consultant with 15 years experience with evidence-based educational interventions for children with ASD/PDD and developmental delays in a range of home and school settings. Founder and Head Consultant of The Nightingale Team for ABA/VB services to families and schools providing consultancy services, as well as provision packages with supervision and 1:1 team members. Over 30 talented members trained since established in 2005.

#### KEY EXPERTISE

- Autism, HF ASD, PDD-NOS, Comorbid conditions, Global Developmental Delays
- ABA/VB, EIBI, mainstream school inclusion and after-school provision (age 2-16)
- Strong background in NET teaching, communication interventions, assisted communication using VOCA (Grid 2, iPad apps)
- Promoting self-help, independence in the community and social stills
- Key skills development for team members to support a Positive Behaviour Plan

#### Work Experience

#### 2011 - present (part-time) External Support Tutor and MSc Supervisor, Cardiff University, Wales

Online course and supervision of dissertation projects for the course: Positive approaches to Challenging Behaviour, MSc and PGCert. BACB approved supervision to graduates pursuing certification

## 2004 - present

## ABA/VB Consultant and Founder of The Nightingale Team

- Designing and consulting Educational Programmes and Behaviour Plans in an ABA/VB framework
- Dynamic programming through analysing data and progress reviews
- Collaborating with the local services, school staff and other professionals
- Supporting parents with the statement process, budgets, annual reviews, mediation and tribunals
- · Recruiting, training and managing team members with an online rota for full provision packages

# 2000 - 2004

## Independent ABA Accredited Senior Supervisor (P.E.A.CH Accredited)

- Designed, planed, and managed ABA/VB Programmes and trained staff across settings
- Supported parents with the statement process, budgets, annual reviews, mediation and tribunals
- Collaborated with the local authorities, school staff and other professionals

1997 - 2000

ABA Therapist and Lead Therapist on home-based EIBI and mainstream inclusion ABA programmes

#### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

BCBA Certificant number: 1-12-10186

EDUCATION	
2010 – 2011	Postgraduate Course, "ABA and Ethics and Behaviour Assessment', Cardiff University, Wales
2005 – 2006	Postgraduate Diploma 'ABA with Developmental Disorders', APU Cambridge, BACB approved Research project: <i>Teaching a High Functioning Child with ASD to mand for information</i> .
1996 – 1998	MSc Health Psychology, University of Westminster, London Dissertation: Factors for depression and anxiety in mothers of children with ASD in relation to their perceived success in managing their children's challenging behaviour.
1991 – 1995	BA Psychology, The New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria

#### BACB; EABA; APBA

#### COURSES PROVIDED

2011	Autism Awareness, Camden School for Girls, London
2003	ASD and Management of Challenging Behaviour, Respite Workers Team, Haringey Disabled Children's Team, London
2002	Introduction to ABA and School Shadowing for Children with ASD, Haringey SNA Training Project
2001	ABA for Children with ASD and Mainstream School Inclusion, Autism Study Day, Haringey NHS
2001	ABA for Children with ASD and Mainstream School Inclusion, Early Bird Course, Haringey Autism

#### CONFERENCES & CPD

- 2014 Ethics Workshop, presented by Emma Hawkins, BCBA-D Grant Gautreaux, Jigsaw CABAS® School, Surrey, UK
- 2014 Video Modelling, presented by Dr Christos Nikopoulos BCBA-D, Easy Steps, UK
- 2013 CBS Conference, CBT and ACT course by Kelly Wilson, UK
- 2012 EABG 2011 Conference, EABG Experimental Analysis Group, UK
- 2011 ABA: Where are we now and where are we going, EABG Experimental Analysis Group, UK
- 2009 Historical Perspective on Lovaas and Intro to Behavioral Economics, Cambridge Center for Behavioural Studies
- 2008 Positive Practice in Behaviour Support, presented by Gary W. La Vigna Ph.D. IABA
- 2007 EIBI for Autism, presented by Professor Bob Remington Ph.D., et al, EABG Experimental Analysis Group UK
- 2007 UK ABA Stakeholders conference on professional competencies, EABG Experimental Analysis Group UK
- 2005 Food for thought, P.E.A.CH. Conference presented by Alan Watkins and Alex Richardson
- 2005 Positive parenting course, presented by The New Learning Centre, West Hampstead
- 2005 RDI, Relationship Development Intervention, P.E.A.CH conference, presented by Sarah Honda
- 2004 Autism Spectrum Disorders, presented by Autism Partnership
- 2004 Makaton training Stages 1-4 hosted by TreeHouse, presented by Penny Stubbs
- 2003 Moving on P.E.A.CH. Conference presented by Anne Maxell, Ph.D.; Mathew Hesmondhalgh MBE,
- 2002 Teaching Communication in the Natural Environment, presented by P. McGreevy, Ph.D.; D. Fennemore
- 2001 Advanced Curriculum: Theory of mind, presented by Francesca degli Espinosa, PEACH Supervisor
- 2001 Areas Of Play Development, presented by Fatima Agrela, PEACH Senior Supervisor
- 2000 Visual Strategies For Children With Autism And Related Disorders, Presented by Nina Lovaas, Ph.D.
- 2000 Intermediate and High Level ABA Programmes, Presented by Mindi Fisher-Polenz of P.E.ACH.
- 2000 How To Supervise Your Lovaas Team, Presented by Mindi Fisher-Polenz of P.E.ACH.
- 2000 Teaching Verbal Behaviour To Children With Autism, Vincent J. Carbone, Ed.D. & Patrick McGreevy, Ph.D.
- 1999 International Symposium On Autism, Arnhem, Netherlands
- 1999 Putting Research Into Practice P.E.A.CH. Conference and Verbal Imitation, Presented by Mindi Polenz of P.E.AC.H.
- 1998 Advanced Skill Development Training Workshop, Presented by Carryl Navalta, Ph.D.
- 1997 Autism'97 Conference, Woking FUTURE HORIZONS, Inc.

#### VOLUNTEER WORK

2000 – 2000	Haringey Autism Parents' Support Group Advisor
1996 – 1997	Outpatient Therapy Group Assistant, The Mental Health Club, Sofia, Bulgaria – meetings support
1995 – 1996	Research Assistant, The Cognitive Science Project, New Bulgarian University, Sofia

#### INTERESTS

2010 – present	Olympians Public Speaking Club, Chelsea, Level: Competent Communicator

2005 - present Member of The London Bulgarian Choir, Winner of BBC 3 "Choir or the Year' competition