

CONTACTS

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PROFILE

A creative problem solver with professional level interpersonal skills - Practical hands-on approach in all aspects of team work with parents, schools and LA's - Specialist in naturalistic communication training and promoting Positive Behaviour Support - Passionate about the best outcome quality of life for 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.

EXPERTISE

- Interventions for reaching maximum potential in inclusion and socialisation for ASD, HF, Comorbid conditions, and other SEN
- ABA/VB, EIBI, mainstream school inclusion and after-school provision in the natural environment (**NET**) (age 2-16)
- Strong background in intensive communication interventions, assisted communication using VOCA (Grid 2, iPad apps)
- Promoting self-help, independence in the community and social skills
- Key skills in the training and development of team members to support a Positive Behaviour Plan in NET

EXPERIENCE

2004 – present	<p>ABA/VB Consultant and Founder of The Nightingale Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 package
2011 – 2015	<p>External Support Tutor and MSc Supervisor, Cardiff University, Wales</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
2000 – 2004	<p>Independent ABA Accredited Senior Supervisor (P.E.A.CH Accredited)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed, planned, 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

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: <i>Factors for depression and anxiety in mothers of children with ASD in relation to their perceived success in managing their children's challenging behaviour.</i>
1991 – 1995	BA Psychology, The New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria

MEMBERSHIPS

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

- 2015 – 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, P.E.A.C.H. 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.A.C.H.
- 1998 - Advanced Skill Development Training Workshop, Presented by Carryl Navalta, Ph.D.
- 1997 - Autism'97 Conference, Woking - FUTURE HORIZONS, Inc.

VOLUNTEERING

- 2010 – present Public Speaking clubs, Toastmasters London, Level: Competent Communicator
- 2000 – 2001 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

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

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