

Understanding and Supporting Pathological Demand Avoidance in Early Years & KS1

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Wednesday 8th July 2026
Friday 16th October 2026

Virtual Masterclass
Virtual Masterclass



Facilitated by:

Lindsay Martin
JMC Consultant

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Understanding and Supporting Pathological Demand Avoidance in Early Years & KS1

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OUTLINE

This course provides an in-depth exploration of Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) within the context of Early Years and Key Stage 1 education. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the characteristics and behaviours associated with PDA, alongside effective strategies for supporting children exhibiting these traits. The course will cover practical approaches to creating inclusive learning environments, fostering positive relationships, and implementing tailored interventions. Emphasis will be placed on collaboration with families and multidisciplinary teams to ensure holistic support for children with PDA.

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Key topics include:

- Understanding the neurodevelopmental aspects of PDA and its impact on learning.
- Identifying signs and symptoms of PDA in young children.
- Effective communication strategies tailored for children with PDA.
- Developing individualised education plans (IEPs) that cater to the unique needs of children with PDA.
- Creating a supportive classroom environment that reduces anxiety and promotes engagement.
- Collaborative approaches with families to ensure consistency between home and school.
- Utilising play-based learning to facilitate emotional regulation and social skills development.
- Strategies for managing challenging behaviours and promoting positive interactions.

Emphasis will be placed on collaboration with families and multidisciplinary teams to ensure holistic support for children with PDA. By the end of the course, participants will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively support children with PDA, fostering their development and enhancing their educational experiences.

KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This masterclass will enable you to:

- To understand the neurodevelopmental aspects of PDA and its impact on learning.
- To identify signs and symptoms of PDA in young children.
- To develop effective communication strategies tailored for children with PDA.
- To create individualised education plans (IEPs) that cater to the unique needs of children with PDA.
- To design a supportive classroom environment that reduces anxiety and promotes engagement.
- To collaborate with families to ensure consistency between home and school.
- To utilise play-based learning to facilitate emotional regulation and social skills development.
- To implement strategies for managing challenging behaviours and promoting positive interactions.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

SLT, SENDco, Teachers, Pastoral support

VIRTUAL PROGRAMME

09.55am	REGISTRATION
10.00am	Understanding PDA and its Impact on Learning
10.45am	Classroom Strategies for the PDA Learner
11.30am	COMFORT BREAK AND VIRTUAL NETWORKING
11.45am	Managing Challenging Behaviours
12.30pm	Plenary & final Q&A
1.00 pm	CLOSE OF DAY

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Promotional Code **Venue**

This is a virtual conference, with private login details to further online resources and interactive content. Log in details will be sent one week before the event.

Date Wednesday 8th July 2026 Friday 16th October 2026**Virtual Fee**

£195 + VAT (£234.00)

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