



TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 10AM TO 12PM

## TRAINING WORKSHOP

**For Parents, Caregivers and Teachers of Children on the Autism Spectrum**

*Teaching life skills to a child with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) can present unique challenges.*

This free workshop will help you understand more about ASD and provide strategies to build independence and help manage challenging behaviours in your child or student.

Facilitators will cover:

- Toileting skills for daytime and night-time: How to teach toilet training skills to children with ASD
- Behavioural Management strategies to reduce problem behaviours

## Facilitators

**Khadine Ali, MSc**  
Applied Behavior Analyst

**Allison Teelucksingh, MEd.**

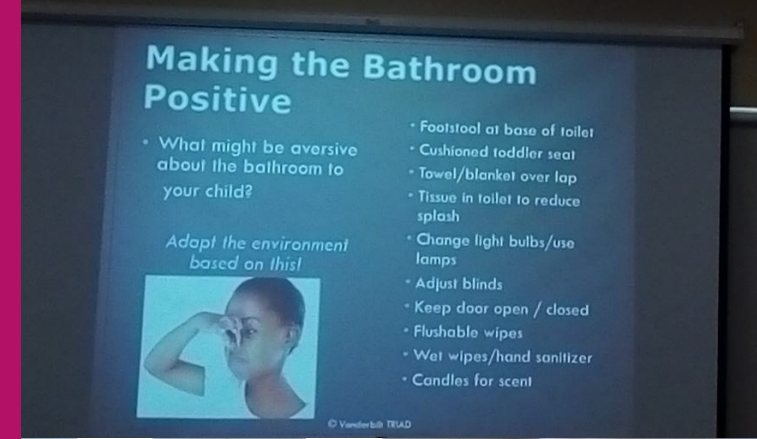
Curriculum & Instruction  
Applied Behavior Analyst,  
Jigsaw Therapeutic Services

This workshop is presented by the **Psychoeducational, Diagnostic and Intervention Clinic** at The School of Education, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.

**We offer Psychoeducational and Reading Assessments to children with learning and behavioural challenges.**

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Trinidad

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**The School of Education**  
celebrates

**World Autism Month**



## **World Autism Month 2019 Report**

April is designated World Autism Month beginning this year on World Autism Awareness Day, April 2, 2019 as observed by the United Nations to “... speak out against discrimination, celebrate the diversity of our global community and strengthen our commitment to the full inclusion and participation of people with autism...” (UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres). The School of Education (SOE), as part of its psychoeducational, diagnostic and intervention clinic, joined in celebrating World Autism Month by planning and offering a training workshop free to parents, caregivers, and teachers of children on the Autism Spectrum. A key challenge for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is mastering toileting skills, an important milestone towards building their independence. Delays in toileting independence can impact negatively on a child’s self-confidence and ability to integrate successfully into school and community life. The SOE hosted an interactive skills-training workshop on April 16, 2019 to teach participants several strategies of toilet training children on this Spectrum. The workshop was hosted by Ms. Khadine Ali, MSc, and Ms. Alison Teelucksingh, MEd, who are both Behavioural Analysts and run the Applied Behaviour Analysis programme at Jigsaw Therapeutic Services, Ltd. Workshop participants engaged in collaborative work groups in developing the following skills set:

- Recognizing toileting readiness
- Using a variety of ABA strategies for toilet training
- Designing materials to assist with toilet training
- Collecting data to ascertain progress
- Using rewards to reinforce helpful behaviour
- Revising and troubleshooting strategies if necessary

Participants' feedback showed that they found the workshop to be very comprehensive and informative. The attendance exceeded expectations, and participants asked for more workshops of a longer duration with discussions on a wider range of topics to include management of severe and chronic behaviours, pragmatic language challenges, and improving social interaction in children with ASD. The success of the workshop signals that the services offered by the Psychoeducational, Diagnostic and Interventions Clinic (PEDIC) at the SOE are much needed in helping key stakeholders to better understand, teach, and care for persons with ASD.

*By Dr. Korinne Louison, Lecturer and Manager of Psychoeducational Diagnostic and Intervention Clinic, School of Education, The UWI St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad.*