Metacognition - Working Memory for Neurodiverse Learners

This training explores metacognition, working memory, and their pivotal roles in supporting neurodiverse learners with SEND and complex needs. We begin by defining working memory and delving into essential insights about memory processes, all while emphasising practical strategies designed to empower educators to effectively support all learners.

Key Focus Areas

Understanding the Role of Working Memory and Metacognition in the Learning Process:
Special emphasis on how these cognitive functions contribute to the process of learning to read.

Defining Working Memory and Its Supportive Role in Learning:
An examination of working memory and how it underpins successful learning outcomes.

Challenges Faced by Learners with Complex Needs in Relation to Working Memory and Metacognition:
Investigating why learners often encounter difficulties in working memory and metacognition, such as limited progress, memory retention issues, social withdrawal, challenges in following instructions, and difficulties with multitasking and task management.

Supporting Working Memory and Metacognition in the Classroom:
Strategies for reducing cognitive overload and optimising working memory and metacognition.

The significance of repetition and movement breaks in reinforcing working memory and metacognition, as well as techniques for reducing anxiety and stress.

Harnessing Technology for Enhanced Learning:
Exploring how technology can be harnessed to enhance the learning experience for all students, with a specific focus on those with complex needs.

By integrating metacognition into the study of working memory, this course equips educators with the knowledge and tools to create an inclusive and effective learning environment. It empowers us to support learners with diverse needs by addressing the interconnected cognitive processes that underlie successful learning.

This training provides an overview of how we learn and why working memory is fundamental to this. We will define working memory and explore key facts around our memory processes. The focus throughout the session will be on practical strategies to support all learners with complex needs.

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The session will focus on:

- Understanding the role of working memory in the learning process, focusing particularly on learning to read.
- What is working memory and how does it support learning?
- Why do learners with complex needs have issues with working memory?
- How deficits in working memory may present in all learners with complex needs, including poor progress, difficulties in remembering or retaining information, being withdrawn, difficulty in following instructions, losing track when dealing with tasks that involve more than one aspect, etc.
- How working memory can be supported in the classroom by reducing cognitive overload, deploying resources and memory aids, repetition, movement breaks, reduction of anxiety and stress.
- How technology should be used to enhance all learning.

This important training is delivered for SWALSS via Zoom by Dr Sarah Moseley, educational consultant and former special school headteacher.

Thursday 23rd May 2024 @ 15:30-17:00 via Zoom

What is the Cost?
£45 per delegate for member schools.
(Additional £195 for annual SWALSS subscription for non-SWALSS schools)

How do I book?
Find the booking form on the [SWALSS website](#) and email your completed application to Issy Johnson, SWALSS Finance and Events Manager at swalssfinance@yahoo.com