



Services for Schools/Colleges

Why choose Think Different Consulting?

- ✓ 25 years' experience working in primary and secondary mainstream schools, and specialist schools and facilities.
- ✓ Proven track record of successful support to schools, parent/carers and young people across the city of Brighton & Hove.
- ✓ Up-to-date, progressive thinking around autism is embedded in all the work I do.
- ✓ Detailed understanding of the SEN system - including funding, common challenges, and practical solutions.
- ✓ Able to work with young people who are formally diagnosed, and those on the pathway to diagnosis, or who identify as autistic.
- ✓ As an independent specialist, I can give honest opinions on the suitability of placement and advise where else might better meet a young person's needs, if required.

What I offer

Support for staff (SENCOs, teachers, HLTAs, TAs, INAs)

- Mentoring sessions looking at the following:
 - Current theory in understanding autistic experience.
 - Applying this to students in your school.
 - Supportive learning strategies and how to embed these in lessons.
 - Wrap around support: what needs to be in place to support students emotional/sensory and social communication needs on an individual basis.
 - Running neuro-affirmative groups (sensory/emotional regulation and social communication).
 - Setting up neuro-affirmative spaces.
- This can be delivered via a mixture of face-to-face and/or online mentoring sessions, and some observations of practice in school.
- I also offer modelling of sessions/work with individuals, for staff to observe.

Think Different Consulting – Change your mind, not the child.



Support for individual students

- For students who:
 - Are struggling to come to school, stay in school, stay in lessons.
 - Need adaptations to access learning successfully.
 - Experience anxiety, including those who mask this.
 - Find it hard to self-regulate.
- Support includes observing a student, meeting with them 1:1 (if appropriate), meeting with parent/carers and any key staff.
- A follow-up report with recommendations is included.
- I can also attend meetings with parent/carers, for example EHCP reviews.
- I also offer mentoring 1:1 - supporting students to feel positive about their autistic identity. I use a strengths-based approach encouraging students to develop:
 - Confidence in themselves as a unique individual.
 - A greater awareness of their own sensory and emotional triggers, responses and regulators.
 - Curiosity about the differences between autistic and neurotypical social communication preferences and/or sensory processing.
 - A deeper understanding of their own strengths and challenges and support to work on areas they would like to focus on.

Development of whole school/college neuro-affirmative ethos

- Audit of curriculum content – identifying where there are challenges for autistic learners and what to do about it – working with subject leads.
- Your school/college's core offer to autistic students – creating a map of what parent/carers can expect your school to provide for their autistic child. This would include information on curriculum, teaching, and the wrap around support for sensory/emotional regulation and social communication needs.
- Support you to write, or quality assure, policies so they are inclusive and progressive.

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Training

Delivered after school/college hours, or during INSET/twilights. This can be tailored to the needs of your setting. Common themes include:

- Understanding autistic experience
- Classroom strategies for successfully supporting autistic students
- Sensory sensitivities and sensory differences
- When behaviour challenges us, what do we do?
- Masking and EBSA (Emotionally Based School Avoidance)
- The social communication differences of autistic students
- Anxiety and autism
- Working successfully with families of autistic students

Please let me know if I can assist with any other projects/development within your school. I am happy to support you with bespoke needs – just let me know!

Costs

NB Costs include time spent in direct work with you and time for preparation and paperwork, e.g, planning sessions, reading or writing of reports.

I do not charge to read/file emails, or for emails around arrangements for visits etc.

- Hourly rate £100 (for pieces of work taking between 1 and 2 hours)
- Per three-hour half day: £285
- Per four-hour half day: £380
- Per six-hour full day: £550

I am happy to put together costed proposals, to go forward to Local Authorities to consider for funding, for specific pieces of work.

www.thinkdifferentconsulting.co.uk