

Stella Macdonald

1. Academic background / Training

Personal Experience – on Autism Spectrum

Up to 'A' Level qualifications

Foundation Course: Counselling Skills

Various local training courses i.e. Vulnerable Adults Course

2. Work Experience

- ASD Coordinator, Fife Council / NHS Fife: 2008-2013. Working in partnership with, and taking direction from, individuals with an ASD and parents, the post has a 'cross-agency' as well as community focus; to ensure that the needs of those affected are recognised and addressed
- Carer to: daughter and Mother – both on the Autism Spectrum (1989 – 2004)
- Have other relatives with ASD
- 18 years of experience offering support, advice and guidance to parents, people with ASD and professionals
- Member of Post-graduate Course Team, University of Strathclyde
- 11 years running Consultancy and Training service
- Regularly invited to attend conferences as keynote speaker, across the UK
- Established local ASD support group, 1995, and Chaired until 2010
- Established and developed a number of initiatives, including:
 - Roving Autism Resource Library
 - 'Autism Fife' pack, modelled on the 'Autism Argyll' pack, containing useful information on local and national services and offered to parents at point of diagnosis of their child
 - Fife Employability post for adults with Asperger's Syndrome and High-functioning Autism
- Women's Royal Naval Service (Radar): 1979 – 1985
 - Worked autonomously
 - Improved systems of working
 - Member of team organising NATO events
 - Involved in training across ranks

3. Strengths

- Conscientious
- Hard working
- Honest
- Caring
- Strong moral values
- Like to see things through
- Dedicated to work
- Good at building working partnerships and working collaboratively
- Tactful and considerate
- Willing to learn and appreciate different points of view
- Resilient
- Reflective
- Forward-thinking

4. Skills

- Organisational
- Leadership
- Original thinking
- Identifying problems
- Planning strategies
- Seeing the big picture
- Instructional techniques
- Identifying and implementing solutions
- Flexible and creative
- Liaising at all levels
- Sound communication skills
- Drawing up reports
- Believe in and promote ability of others