# SENSORY ATTACHMENT INTERVENTION CONSULTANCY

www.sensoryattachmentintervention.com



TRAUMA INFORMED ASSESSMENT & INTERVENTION A Practical Approach to Sensory Trauma and Complex Trauma

#### HYBRID COURSE

For information on venue, fees and how to book please visit:

www.sensoryattachmentintervention.com/therapistmodules

COURSE AUTHORS Éadaoin Bhreathnach, Claire Pemrick, Emma Smith & Nick Smith

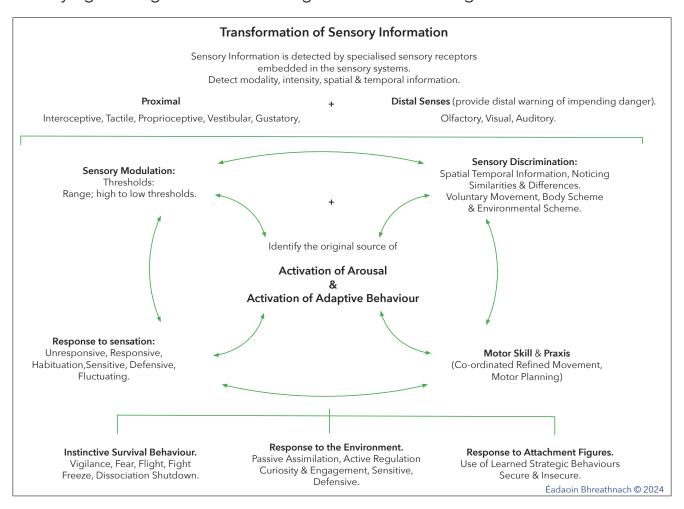
#### COURSE OVERVIEW

This seven-day hybrid course will consider the traumatic impact of sensory processing difficulties on the self-regulation and co-regulation process and the impact of insecure attachment and trauma on sensory processing.

It will consist of three elements:

#### 1. Introduction to Applied Neuroanatomy, An Integrative Review

The proximal and distal sensory systems,
Transformation of sensory information,
Activation of arousal states and disposition to behaviourally respond,
How this influences our relationship with the physical environment and with others.
Identifying the original source of danger and use of strategic behaviours.



#### 2. Assessment\*

Therapists will learn how to administer the SAI Trauma Informed Clinical Observations (TICO). This adaptation of Ayres Clinical Observations is designed for use with those who are highly resistant to being approached and touched, whether the origin of resistance is sensory or due to complex trauma. Therapists will also be shown how to carry out tactile assessments in a trauma informed way and administer the Sensory Arousal Attachment Physiological (SAAP) Profile Questionnaire. The lived experience of the assessment process for the assessee will be considered and the potential for negative after effects. Videos of standardised

attachment assessments and sensory processing assessments will be analysed from a sensory-attachment perspective.

\* The practical elements will take place onsite over two days at a chosen venue.

#### 3. Intervention

Therapists will learn the principles of Sensory Attachment Intervention. The SAI Levels of Self-Regulation, Clinical Formulation Tool will be reviewed to inform the intervention process. The Use of the Memory Recall Chart will inform the neurosequential stages of treatment and along with the SAAP will identify outcomes of intervention.

#### **Group Case Study Requirements.**

There will be a four-month gap when participants will split into groups. Each member of the group can choose to video and complete a SAAP on their case study, however it will be the group who decides which case study goes forward to be reviewed on the final day. Each group will collectively analyse and interpret the findings of the SAAP, analyse the video footage and put their findings onto the Levels of Self Regulation, Clinical Formulation Chart and recommendations on the SAI Intervention Chart, then prior to the last day jointly review an intervention session and consider further recommendations.

On completion of the course, participants will receive a certificate stating they are are trained to administer the SAAP, TICO and SAI Trauma Informed Tactile Protocol and in SAI trauma informed practice.

Therapists who individually work on and successfully submit a case study, post training, will receive a certificate of competency in the administration of SAI clinical assessment tools and in SAI trauma informed practice.

#### **Entry Requirements**

- ♦ Qualified Occupational Therapists or Physiotherapists.
- Attendance at a University accredited foundation and neuroscience module in Sensory Integration (SI).
- ♦ ONE of the following courses:
  - 'Attachment: Parent Child Relationships: An Integrative Response to Assessment and Intervention' with Attachment Works.
  - Any of the Dynamic-Maturational Model (DMM) courses. See the Family Relations Institute for details.
  - 'Child Attachment & Play Assessment' Module 1, with CAPA.
- ♦ ONE of the following courses:
  - 'SAI for Adults & Adolescents.'
  - 'Introduction to SAI: The Impact of Developmental Trauma and Insecure Attachment on Sensory Processing.'

#### TIME TABLE

#### Day 1 (Online) Applied Neuroanatomy

An integrative Approach:

The impact of trauma and attachment patterns on;

Survival, Affective and Discriminative Processing.

Use of the Transformation of Sensory Information Chart and Memory Recall Chart to assist clinical formulation.

#### Day 2 (Onsite) Tactile Practical

A Trauma Informed Approach to Touch.

Participants will learn and practice the use of the SAI Touch Protocol with fellow participants. This includes: cues for safety, obtaining true consent to touch when assessing and treating, monitoring arousal states, enabling sensation-based feelings.

### DAY 3 (ONSITE) ADMINISTRATION OF THE SAI TRAUMA INFORMED CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS

Participants will spend the full day practicing how to carry out clinical observations in a trauma informed way. Trainers will be able to directly observe how participants administer the test items and support their learning.

#### Day 4 (Online) Coding Clinical Observations

Learning how to score the child's performance and differentiate whether behaviour is sensory, a survival response or attachment behaviour.

Review videos.

## Day 5 (Online) Free Play Analysis of Postural Control and Praxis & Intervention

A guide to the SAI free play procedure for use with children who struggle with formal assessments. It enables the therapist to observe whether behaviour is contingent on the sensory environment or on who is present.

#### Day 6 (Online) Sai

#### Morning Session

A sensory-attachment approach to assessing tactile processing and Intervention. Sensory Modulation & Sensory Discrimination.

Video analysis of case studies to illustrate the difference when assessing and treating a child with significant sensory processing difficulties in contrast to a child with complex trauma.

#### Afternoon Session

Administration of the SAAP Questionnaire and Group Case Study Requirements. Linking in with group members to organise the next steps for the case study analysis.

### Day 7 (Online) Presentation of Case Study

Each group will jointly present their case study findings to the trainers and to the other group.

Morning Session Case Study 1.

Afternoon Session Case Study 2.