Peer Mediated Instruction for Middle School Students with Autism
October 24, 2019, 3:00-4:00 | Room 308A Scarfe

Peer-mediated instruction (PMI) is an evidence-based practice that involves supporting typically developing peers to interact with learners with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) within natural environments. This session will provide an overview of PMI research, followed by a description of a PMI research study conducted in a middle school. The study employed a low-intensity instructional package with classmates of three students with ASD. The results will be discussed in terms of advantages, disadvantages, and limitations.

*1.0 BACB CEU will be available for this event, at no cost

Assessment and Treatment of Comorbid Selective Mutism and Autism Spectrum Disorder
November 21, 2019, 2:30-3:30 | Room 308A Scarfe

It is well-known that anxiety disorders co-exist with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) but much less is known about how to treat anxiety specific to speaking – that is, selective mutism (SM) – in the context of ASD. This is problematic, as SM compounds the core social-communication challenges experienced by individuals with ASD. This presentation provides information about how to assess and treat SM in children with ASD, using an evidence-based behavioural intervention for SM that is modified for ASD.

Executive Function and Autism Spectrum Disorder: Measurement, Context, and Implications for Daily Life
January 22, 2020, 3:00-4:00 | Room 308A Scarfe

This session will include a brief overview of executive function (EF) in children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder, comparing the results of performance-based and parent-report studies. It will focus on a discussion of the relationships between EF, mental health, social competence, and adaptive functioning in this population.

A Preliminary Evaluation of a Modified, School-Based Facing Your Fears Intervention for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Anxiety
February 12, 2020, 2:30-4:00 | Room 308A Scarfe

With a high prevalence of anxiety among youth with autism spectrum disorder, researchers have noted that implementing effective treatments in real-world settings is a top priority. This presentation will describe the results of two related studies that examined an adaptation and delivery of the Facing Your Fears (FYF) intervention for anxiety in school settings.

A Secondary Prevention Model of Family-Centred PBS: The Low-“Down”
April 7, 2020, 2:30-4:00 | Room 308A Scarfe

This presentation will summarize the results of research examining a secondary prevention, family-centred, positive behaviour support (FCPBS) program for parents of young children with Down syndrome, some of whom also have autism spectrum disorder. The session will describe the 14-week group parent training program and will also outline universal FCPBS strategies that are broadly applicable to families of young children with developmental disabilities who engage in mild-to-moderate problem behaviour. Techniques for facilitating group parent training sessions will also be discussed.