Advanced DCD / Dyspraxia Workshop – in person (Dublin)

Exploring Complex Profiles, Clinical Reasoning and Advanced Practice

Date - Friday 5th March 2027

Timings - 9:30am-4:30pm (with coffee and lunch breaks)

Location - Carmichael House, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7

Who is this workshop for?

This advanced workshop is for healthcare professionals who have completed the Best Practice Assessment and Best Practice Intervention training in DCD/Dyspraxia, or who have equivalent foundational knowledge and experience. Building on core knowledge of assessment and intervention, the workshop moves into the realities of complex clinical presentations, advanced clinical reasoning and intervention decision-making.

What will the workshop cover?

The workshop will explore the current research and clinical practice context across key areas:

Advanced Clinical Reasoning: From Assessment Findings to Formulation

Explore complex assessment profiles where standardised motor scores, functional reports, clinical observations and co-occurring conditions influence clinical reasoning and assessment formulation.

We will consider questions such as:

- What does it mean when MABC-2 or 3 performance scores and everyday functioning do not neatly align?
- How do we distinguish motor capacity from performance in everyday life that may be influenced by a co-occurring condition, trauma or social-environmental factors?
- How do co-occurring conditions influence our interpretation and formulation?

The emphasis is on moving from assessment results to a meaningful clinical formulation of the whole child.

Complex Intervention Design

How do we design interventions that account for complexity?

Motor difficulties are only part of the DCD/Dyspraxic experience. Using a clinical decision-making framework, we will explore the complexity of the functional and psychosocial needs dyspraxic children and adolescents may experience.

A key clinical question will underpin this section: how do we address and support the complex psychosocial issues that are often unrecognised and treated for the child and family?

Advanced Case Formulation & Intervention

Through complex case-based discussions, participants will apply advanced clinical reasoning to challenging DCD presentations, including conflicting assessment findings, co-occurring conditions and complex functional needs.

Using a structured occupational formulation process, participants will explore how to identify intervention priorities, determine when further investigation or multidisciplinary input is needed, and select evidence-informed approaches that address motor performance, psychosocial wellbeing and participation.

The emphasis will be on translating research and assessment findings into individualised, meaningful and participation-focused clinical decision-making.

About the Course presenter

Dr. Áine O'Dea is an experienced occupational therapist, educator, and researcher, having worked for over two decades. She is one of Ireland's foremost experts in Dyspraxia/DCD. Áine was the first occupational therapist in Ireland to receive the prestigious SPHeRE (HRB–Health Research Board) scholarship. During her doctoral studies, she examined the most effective interventions to treat this disorder and how to combat the potential adverse impacts on inclusion and participation for young people. In addition, Áine has worked closely with Dyspraxia/DCD Ireland for some years, sharing her passion for education and knowledge with parents of children and adults with DCD.Áine is a published author of several papers in high-impact journals and a contributor to other publications in Developmental Coordination Disorder, Occupational therapy, Clinical supervision, and Parent/educator coaching.

Course booking

The course cost is €275