

Shape Coding Course – Part 1

Course leader: Dr Susan Ebbels

Location: Moor House School, Hurst Green, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 9AQ

This course is suitable for those with limited or no knowledge of Shape Coding and is aimed at Speech and Language Therapists and teachers, although others are welcome to attend. The course teaches attendees the basics of Shape Coding and how to use it with children with language difficulties. It includes videos of SLTs using the system with a variety of children, practical sessions to improve understanding of the system and group activities on how to introduce it to children in the classroom or in small groups.

During the day, you will learn about:

- The underlying hypotheses of Shape Coding and other visual coding systems
- How Shape Coding differs from other visual coding systems
- The basic colours of Shape Coding (for parts of speech)
- The shapes of Shape Coding (for phrases)
- The arrow system of Shape Coding (for verb morphology such as tenses)
- The evidence base for Shape Coding and which children benefit

You will also learn how to use Shape Coding to help teach:

- Basic sentence structures
- Vocabulary and the links between vocabulary and grammar (verb argument structure)
- Suffixes
- Narrative and its links with vocabulary and grammar
- Forming simple questions
- Subject-verb agreement (e.g., use of 'is' vs. 'are')
- Verb tenses
- Introduction to conjunctions

The course costs £175 per person and will be limited to 20 attendees. It takes place in the conference room at Moor House School in Surrey, within walking distance of Hurst Green station (40 mins from London Victoria) and includes a buffet lunch, tea and coffee. Please bring a set of coloured pencils

Feedback from previous attendees:

“Fantastic course. Excellent course leader – good pace and relevant information. Excellent food also! Thank you very much!”

“Best and most relevant course I’ve attended for ages”

“a brilliant, fantastic, incredibly useful course”

“Perfect pace – good mix of presentation / practical. Good to know background / effectiveness in intervention studies”

“The workshop and practical activities were extremely helpful. Great balance of theory and practical activities”

“Very interesting day and great presenting – made all examples easy to understand. Thanks very much”

“Material presented well and easy to understand. Susan was very approachable and friendly”

“Really enjoyed course – clear explanations and opportunities to try Shape Coding which deepened understanding”

“One of the very best courses I have been on – thank you so much!”

“Really great course. Could apply aspects to my work straight away”

“Very practical therapy tool. Delighted I attended”

“Safe learning environment”

“I appreciated being able to ask questions – informal style was helpful”

“Video footage was helpful as were the workshop slots on how to introduce aspects of Shape Coding”

“Great sized group – able to discuss and make contacts”

“Good speaker with good knowledge”

“Plenty of food for thought ... need to now think how I can apply it in my work setting.... That’s a challenge!”

“Very valuable in my area of work”

“Practical, hands on – I’ll definitely use this. Good mix of listening and doing and watching video clips. Enjoyed hearing about research base – often neglected”

“Thoroughly enjoyed today’s session. Very informative. I’m leaving motivated to begin Shape Coding with caseload. Excellent to hear about research and effectiveness. Delicious lunch. Thank you!”

“Wonderful presentation, very organised and useful”

“Can’t wait to start using it!”