

# Pathological Demand Avoidance Conference

Tuesday 26 November 2019, Jury's Inn, Birmingham

**#PDAConf**

- 09.30 **Welcome by the Chairs**  
**Dr Laura Cockburn**, Special Education Psychologist and Head of Lorna Wing Centre (Essex),  
**National Autistic Society**  
**Jilly Davis**, (Retired) Assistant Head at the **National Autistic Society's (NAS) Robert Ogden School** and  
Education Advisor, **PDA Society**
- 09.40 **Introduction, context and current initiatives**  
**Sally Russell OBE**, Parent
- 09.55 **PDA: An insider's perspective**  
**Harry Thompson**, Author, Public Speaker and PDA Expert by Experience
- 10.20 **Towards an understanding of Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA): clinical, research  
and educational perspectives**  
**Phil Christie**, Consultant Child Psychologist
- 11.10 **Q&A with morning speakers**
- 11.20 **Refreshment break**

## Stream A Chair: Dr Laura Cockburn

- 11.50 **An insight into family life with Pathological  
Demand Avoidance**  
**Becky Giles**, SENDIASS Officer and Parent

## 12.30 Lunch

- 13.30 **Adult services best-practice**  
**Kate Williams**, Cardiff Outreach Support  
Worker, **National Autistic Society**

## 14.10 Transition time

- 14.20 **Diagnostic pathway best-practice**  
**Dr Lisa Summerhill**, Lead Clinical Psychologist,  
Children's Community Therapy Services,  
**University Hospitals Birmingham**  
**NHS Foundation Trust**

## 15.00 Refreshment break

- 15.30 **PDA in school - approaches and strategies**  
**Ruth Fidler**, Education Consultant

- 16.20 **Panel and Q&A - How do we best support people with a PDA diagnosis or profile?**  
**Phil Christie**, **Ruth Fidler**, **Dr Judy Eaton** and **Harry Thompson**

## 16.50 Closing remarks by the Chairs

## 17.00 Conference ends

## Stream B Chair: Jilly Davis

- 11.50 **Further exploring the PDA profile -  
evidence from clinical cases**  
**Dr Judy Eaton**, Consultant Clinical  
Psychologist, **Help for Psychology**

- 13.30 **School best-practice**  
**Natalie Menagh**, Headteacher,  
**Alt Bridge School**

- 14.20 **Knowledge of Pathological Demand  
Avoidance amongst health professionals  
in the UK**  
**Lucy Livingston**, Ealing Women's Social  
Group Lead, **ASSIST London**