

# **Luton Living Well Autistic CONFERENCE**

An uplifting, thought-provoking day that aims to challenge and inspire your thinking about the autism spectrum.

# Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 9.00am-4.00pm

**University of Bedfordshire** 

University Square Luton LU1 3JU

"Sometimes it is the people no one can imagine anything of who do the things no one can imagine."

Alan Turing, creator of the first computer used to break codes during WW II.

## We are delighted to share with you:

- Robyn Steward: Keynote Speaker "The Robyn Steward Mashup"
- Local Voices: Luton students share their personal experiences and insights.
  - Joanna Grace: Myth Busting Sensory Strategies
- Joe Wells: "Why I'm excited about the neurodiversity movement"

Plus the opportunity to meet and gain information from a range of local organisations and services

Please contact the Autism Spectrum Team (SENS) to book a place:

SENS.Training1@luton.gov.uk (01582) 548151

To cover costs there is a ticket price of £25 for this event.

Lunch and light refreshments will be provided.











### **Robyn Steward**

Robyn is an exceptional individual, having a diagnosis of autism along with nine other disabilities, and leaving school with no GCSEs. Robyn is a Research Associate at UCL (University College London), and has co-authored several academic papers. Robyn has written three books; The Independent Woman's Handbook for Super Safe Living on the Autistic Spectrum, The Autism Friendly Guide to Periods and The Autism Friendly Guide to self-employment. Robyn has spoken all over the world including in the USA, Australia and Japan. Robyn is also an accomplished musician, having performed around the world and enjoying a regular residency at Cafe OTO in East London. If that was not enough, Robyn also finds time to Co Host BBC Sound's 1800 seconds on Autism.



#### Joanna Grace

Joanna is a trainer, author, Ted Ex Presenter, Doctoral Researcher and Autistic. Joanna runs the Sensory Projects <a href="www.thesensoryprojects.co.uk">www.thesensoryprojects.co.uk</a> working nationally and internationally to promote inclusion. Joanna's work focuses on people whose primary experience of the world, and meaning within it, is sensory, for example people with profound and multiple learning disabilities or people with later stage dementia.

Joanna has published many books and articles regarding sensory engagement. In addition, Joanna is one of the editors of the PMLDlink journal www.PMLDlink.org.uk and a lead author on the Core and Essential Service Standards for Supporting People with Profound and Multiple Learning disabilities.



Joe Wells

Joe Wells is an autistic writer and speaker. Joe Wells' writing career began when his first book 'Touch and Go Joe' about his experiences of OCD was published. Joe also co-hosts a nerdy music podcast called 'emergency mixtape', available from most podcast platforms. Joe can often be seen speaking at a range of events both on and off the telly, winning many awards and rave reviews from The Guardian and other national press agencies.

\* All speakers are offering their unique perspective and insight into the autism spectrum and how it effects them, all views are their own.







