

## A Guide to Our Neurodiversity Ambassador Programme

### Who we are.

My name is Oliver Fenghour and I am the Director and Founder of Advance: The Disability Consultants. I have a form of Autism known as Asperger's Syndrome. I was diagnosed by a Professor of Neurology at Great Ormond Street at the age of 10. I was diagnosed with Dyspraxia at the age of 4 and I identify as Neurodivergent. Upon leaving school at 16 I struggled for many years to find employment and found there was often a distinct lack of awareness and understanding of Neurodiversity.

Eventually I was helped by the disability charity Mencap into employment with J Sainsburys PLC. Mencap supported me successfully in the workplace for about three years, yet with the financial crash in 2008 and the consequent austerity that followed, meant that the support I had received in the workplace was subsequently removed. I was fortunate that by the time my support in the workplace was removed I was functioning well in the workplace due to the excellent awareness and understanding that my employers and colleagues had of my needs and requirements as a Neurodivergent Adult.

Although, my employment experience post-Sainsburys has been markedly different and too often I have been seen as Oliver the disability and by definition a workplace problem which needed fixing and not Oliver an individual who was capable of adding value to an organisation.

It is estimated that globally according to the CIPD that only 24% of HR professionals have a good working knowledge of Neurodiversity in their workplaces. Yet 76% of HR professionals surveyed have stated that they are keen to further their knowledge of Neurodiversity to ensure that Neurodivergent employees can have access to meaningful opportunities in the modern workplace.

My primary objective of founding Advance: The Disability Consultants is to help give organisations the confidence, knowledge and skills required to successfully recruit, retain, support, and develop Neurodivergent talent in the workplace. As a specialist Neurodiversity consultancy business, we offer Neurodiversity Lunch and learn training for all employees, HR & Recruitment training sessions and workshops, Leadership and Management training sessions, Neurodiversity Cultural Awareness Workshops and a Neurodiversity Ambassador training programme all designed to ensure that your organisation has the right tools required to become a Neurodiversity Confident Employer.

Since founding Advance: The Disability Consultants in 2019 we have worked with organisations in the UK, USA, Australia, Argentina, Central America, Germany, Sweden, and Singapore to understand and learn more about Neurodiversity and Neurodivergent people and we have helped support organisations as diverse as The Rainforest Alliance and eBay to become Neurodiversity Confident Employers.

At Advance: The Disability Consultants we work with organisations ranging from FTSE 100 and NASDAQ 500 companies to SMEs and public sector organisations. To help make them Neurodiversity Confident employers. It doesn't matter where you are in the world, we work with you to help give you the skills, confidence, and knowledge to become a world-leading Neurodiversity Confident Employer in your industry. Can you really afford to miss out on the next Steve Jobs or Bill Gates in your industry?

### **Our Training Sessions**

At Advance: The Disability Consultants our Neurodiversity Lunch and Learn Training sessions are designed as general information and awareness training sessions. The purpose is to help start the conversation around Neurodiversity in the workplace. We realise that for many organisations just starting the conversation around Neurodiversity can be daunting. Our Neurodiversity Lunch and Learn Training sessions are designed to ignite conversation and discussion in your organisation whilst encouraging your organisation to create psychologically safe working environments for all employees participating in the training sessions. The training sessions are designed to be interactive,

fun, and engaging and include breakout tasks, debates, quizzes, and mind maps designed to ensure that all delegates can participate in a psychologically safe environment free from judgement and criticism. As an organisation we offer the following Neurodiversity Lunch & Learn Training Sessions:

- My Personal Journey with Neurodiversity
- Neurodiversity & The Recruitment Process
- Neurodiversity and Employment
- Neurodiversity and Digital Solutions in the Workplace
- Neurodiversity Culture Change
- Neurodiversity Talent Management Strategies
- Neurodiversity & Change Management
- Neurodiversity, Reasonable Adjustments & Universal Design Frameworks

#### **How it benefits your organisation**

- Neurodiversity training tailored to your organisational requirements and objectives.
- Understand the strengths and benefits of Neurodivergent employees in your organisation.
- Training focused on changing group and individual beliefs, values, and attitudes towards Neurodiversity in the workplace and society.
- Increase innovation, creativity, knowledge, and skills around Neurodiversity in your organisation.
- Creates a more psychologically safe culture for all employees whilst encouraging a greater culture of disclosure and openness around Neurodiversity.
- Learn about the key characteristic traits that comprise Neurodiversity.
- Understand about the business benefits of hiring Neurodivergent talent into your organisation.
- Learn about the Medical v Social model of Disability and understand why the modern workplace leads the way in understanding Neurodiversity and Neurodivergent people.

## General Information

All of our training sessions as much as possible are uniquely tailored to your organisational requirements as much as is feasibly possible. (Please note) that for further information on any of the courses that we offer email [oliver@advancethedisabilityconsultants.co.uk](mailto:oliver@advancethedisabilityconsultants.co.uk) and we can send individual course guides to you. We typically recommend that for any of our Neurodiversity Workshops that you have the appropriate tech in place in order for the training sessions to happen. This will usually be on Microsoft Team, Zoom, Cisco Webex or Google meet. Additionally, as part of our workshops we can offer signers and translators particularly if English is not the traditionally spoken language in your organisation.

## Pricing

Training Sessions 1hr	£400 €472 \$506
Half Day Workshops 3hr Sessions	£450 €531 \$570
Full Day Workshops AM and PM Session 3hr Sessions	£500 €590 \$633
Projects/Consultancy Day Rate	£600 €708 \$760