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2026 Full Online LAMP course (Aotearoa / New Zealand) Words for Life & the LAMP therapy approach (October-November)

Suitable for all professionals and whānau supporting autistic children who use AAC

PRESENTED BY

Dr Sam Brydon

In response to feedback, the 2-day LAMP course is now available as an online course in NZ, comprising of three foundational 2.5-hour sessions and one advanced , professionals only, technical 4.5 hour session , spread across 8 weeks,

About this event:

It is intended that the workshop will be fully participatory, with a strong emphasis on practical application of the LAMP (Language Acquisition through Motor Planning) therapy approach and LAMP Words for Life app. Sessions will include group discussions, hands-on practice activities, small-group work, and action planning to support the transfer of new knowledge and skills into everyday practice. Numbers will be capped at 30 participants per workshop, **and sessions will not be recorded.!**

This workshop will provide comprehensive training about the LAMP therapeutic approach, which was developed by John and Cindy Halloran, and Mia Emerson, and focuses on supporting autistic children to use AAC. This approach can be used across AAC systems, but it is particularly suited for use with the LAMP Words for Life app.

LAMP Words for Life is a communication app that has been specifically designed with autistic children in mind, and is the partner app for the LAMP therapeutic approach, with a focus on learning words through unique and efficient motor plans. This app will be demonstrated and demystified throughout the workshops, with plenty of opportunities for participants to practice and hone their skills at setting up, modelling, and using in a range of activities.

Throughout the workshops, participants will:

- Learn the theory underpinning the LAMP approach
- Understand the role of multi-sensory convergence
- Explore the five core elements of LAMP
- Gain practical strategies to engage autistic children in communication-rich activities
- Develop skills to set up, model, edit, and use LAMP Words for Life in everyday context

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By the end of the first three sessions, participants should feel confident in their understanding of the LAMP therapeutic approach, the importance of multi-sensory convergence, and how to engage autistic children in communication-rich activities. Participants will also develop practical skills in setting up, modelling, editing, and using LAMP Words for Life as they begin implementation.

Session 4 (professionals only):

The fourth session extends learning with a deeper technical and systems focus, including:

- Tips for successful initial implementation of LAMP
- Supporting children and young people with additional behavioural and sensory needs
- Coaching and supporting communication partners
- Implementing LAMP effectively in classroom settings

About the presenter:

Sam Brydon is a speech language therapist with 30 years of experience in the field of disability, including as a social worker. Sam originally trained and worked in England, before emigrating to Aotearoa in 2007. She has since worked for the Ministry of Education, Patricia Avenue Specialist School, and currently for The TalkLink Trust. She completed doctoral research at Massey University in the field of AAC in 2023. Sam first discovered LAMP when she was reading and researching for her PhD. She attended the first training in Aotearoa in 2019 and has since implemented and supported LAMP with many children and young people with diverse communication needs and has been excited to observe how successful this approach can be with children who have previously struggled to use AAC

Minimum numbers, Cancellations: & Certificates of Attendance:

Minimum numbers, Cancellations & Certificates of Attendance:
Events require a minimum of participants to proceed. We'll confirm if we can go ahead, at the latest two weeks before the start date of the event. We offer the option to attend at a different location or a full refund in case we need to cancel. Please keep this in mind when booking any travel and accommodations.

Cancellations by participants less than 14 days before the event will not be refunded. Substitution by another person is possible when you notify us by email at events@atanz.org.nz no later than 3 days before the start of the event. Please check out our full Cancellation and Refunds Policy with additional Certificates of Attendance Terms and Conditions on our website events page here

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Who can attend:

First 3 sessions are for all people including speech language therapists, occupational therapists eachers, teacher aides and parents/caregivers, working with autistic children with diverse communication needs. The 4th session is given it's technical focus aimed at professionals only.

Professionals who complete ALL three first sessions can apply for a free LAMP app license. All details about access and activation will be provided after completion of the three sessions

Costs

$ 395 for ATANZ members
$ 495 for non-members, (membership is $110)
$ 50 for whānau/family members, first 3 sessions only (limited numbers)
$125 for Students (limited numbers)

Please check out our grants for professionals and whānau here:
https://www.atanz.org.nz/professionals/grants-and-funding

Registrations close 28 September 2026
or when sold out – places are limited! Ensure you log in with the correct ticket type to access the discount rate for ATANZ members!

TICKETS AND INFORMATION:
www.atanz.org.nz/events

All login details will be sent to registrants closer to the date.

For any questions about these workshops please contact events@atanz.org.nz

Session 1 - 12 October 2026
Session 2 - 28 October 2026
Session 3 - 9 November 2026

1.00 PM- 3.30 PM , NZ Time
3 online sessions of 2.5 hours via Zoom

Session 4 - 23 November 2026

9.30 AM- 2.30 PM, NZ Time -
1 online session of 4.5 hours, via Zoom.
Professionals only!