



Approach Training Safely Ltd
Hartlepool Enterprise Centre
Brougham Terrace
Hartlepool
TS24 8EY

ATS are local providers of adult learning and development services, from awareness sessions through to L5 Diplomas. What makes us different is that we look at each individual learner as a person, not a number, and try to instil confidence and self-belief as well as achieving their qualification. We aim to be a community focussed provider and like to 'pay it forward', which is why we support Carers Centres in the region with free training. We are also advocates for Dementia Friendly communities and all of our staff team are trained Dementia Champions.

How can your organisation help to support people with dementia and families/carers?

Our two directors are both carers for family members, one with cancer and one with Dementia. This gives us a special understanding of all the reality of being a carer and what can help, especially hearing what they are saying, not just listening.

We have already demonstrated our commitment by having all staff members trained as Dementia Champions and offering Dementia Friends sessions to the community. By informing people and giving them the opportunity to ask questions and identify even small ways that they can be supportive to people living with dementia and their families, we hope to be able to make their lives a little easier.

What are the challenges to delivering these outcomes for your organisation?

The biggest challenge is getting people to sign up on the open sessions! This is why we now discuss with managers and business owners to try to access the workplace.

Action 1

Raise awareness of dementia, what it is and how individuals can help to make dementia friendly communities

Provide free Dementia Friends sessions for individuals and groups. There are advertised on www.bookwhen.com/approachtrainingsafely and also logged on the Dementia Friends website. Links are also on www.facebook.com/approachtrainingsafely and will be on our new website.

New Dementia Friends identify ways they can help others, may just be something small such as taking more time or having a chat or being more understanding and tolerant of others when they are out and about, instead of using negative body language.

Action 2

Changing local policy

The Director is working on changing policy at the Thirteen Group so that individuals with Dementia and their carers are seen as vulnerable and deserving of special consideration with regard to safe housing needs.

Action 3

The Dementia Mentor Programme

Supporting carers in the community. This programme is due for implementation and our Director is attending regular meetings as the role is developed. Our Directors will be happy to support this with tailored training and education sessions as Approach Training Safely.