# **Masking SEN**

Chances are, we can all picture a student who spends their time avoiding learning by either hiding, walking the corridors, or displaying challenging behaviours that result in them being sent out of lessons.

This session will discuss the needs that this student could be masking, why and how they have developed this masking behaviour and specific strategies for all school staff to support these students.

**Activity 1 – Barriers to learning in your school;**

Holding a particular student in mind, whether due to an additional learning need or early childhood trauma/ attachment difficulties; can you think of some barriers to your young person being successful in school?

1 …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

2 ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

3 ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

**Activity 2 – Reflection;**

Holding a particular student in mind, complete the ‘Behaviour’ column, with three of their observed behaviours.

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| **Behaviour** | **Communication** |
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**Activity 3 – Breakout – Harnessing the power of collaboration;**

Within your group, discuss your student’s presenting behaviours and what they could be communicating.







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