



Children's Social Care (CSC) Training Course Flyers

2024 - 2025

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Autism Friendly Standards

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FACE TO FACE TRAINING

Introduction:

The Autism Friendly Standards are intended as an audit tool for social workers, and their teams, to use to identify their strengths and areas for development when considering how they work with children, young people and their families who are living with Autism.

The standards are the focus of a free training and support package delivered by experienced practitioners, with the following intended outcomes:

Learning Objectives:

- Increased expertise and confidence in supporting children, young people and their families living with autism by understanding their viewpoint, experience of the world and how to communicate effectively with them.
- Working within a clear model that supports social workers with simple strategies and tips for developing effective communication and relationships with families.
- Increased confidence of staff in developing effective and realistic targets and plans at various levels of support within the Help and Protection service.

Intended for: Team Managers, Assistant Team Managers and Social Workers in Children's Social Care

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
24/09/2024	Mezzanine 1, New County Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury	9:30am	13:00pm
04/02/2025	Mezzanine 1, New County Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury	9:30am	13:00pm

Tutor: Tara Deakes, Headteacher, Westfield School

Child & Adolescent Neglect

Learning Objectives:

You will learn to:

- What is neglect and why is it important that we understand and know how to recognise it?
- What does research tell us?
- What are some of the key causes of neglect?
- What are the key consequences of neglect?
- How can we help and support families?
- How can we safeguard children and young people, including teenagers (often a 'neglected' group)?

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care Staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
17/10/2024	Virtual Training via MS Teams	10:00am	4:00pm

Tutor: Professor David Shemmings OBE PhD, Emeritus Professor of Child Protection Research
University of Kent and Royal Holloway, University of London

Cracking Chronologies

We all know that the best indicator of person's future behaviour is their past behaviour. And their past is their history. History can tell us so much, but we are all too often wrapped up in the present to miss the messages that can radically improve our analysis and decision making.

Aim of the Course:

This highly interactive course will place your work with children and families into the context of history: child protection itself, lessons that we can learn generally, and how individual family histories help us build up a picture to understand their story.

You will begin to see a chronology as a series of "headlines" which record, in date order, the significant events and changes in a child or young person's life. It gives an immediate, visual overview. It isn't a blow-by-blow account, everyday observations, an assessment, a running log, a daily diary, or a list of professional interventions.

Chronologies are not just another admin chore. They are integral to your practice. We'll show you why.

Learning Objectives:

You will learn to:

- appreciate the general role of history and what it can teach us
- apply the lessons of history to your everyday practice
- understand why we need to write a chronology
- understand what makes a good chronology (and what doesn't) and how to make it work
- use chronologies as part of a facts-analysis-judgement approach
- write cracking chronologies!

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care Staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
13/06/2024	Virtual Training via MS Teams	10:00am	3:00pm
19/11/2024	Virtual Training via Ms Teams	10:00am	3:00pm

Tutor: Graham Hopkins, Do The Write Thing

County Lines

Overview:

There are serious and increasing challenges posed by County lines and the criminal exploitation of children. The 2017 National Crime Agency (NCA) report highlighted that 88% of police force returns identified County lines activity, with a conservative estimate of 720 lines operating across England and Wales, the majority originating in London. Children involved in County lines experience particularly high levels of risk to safety and life that differ from other exploitation, e.g. child sexual exploitation and require different approaches. (County Lines Scoping Report May 2018 Jo Hudak and St Giles Trust).

Gang members can give some young people a false sense of belonging, safety and security, fulfilling a gap that exists in their lives. We must, with a strong sense of purpose, clearly commit to ensuring young people's lives are not wasted, provide positive alternatives and expose the damage that gangs do to gang members and to society. (A Safer City for all Londoners – Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2121).

This course aims to increase awareness.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the procedures of County lines and how this works as a Business model.
- Have gained knowledge of the vulnerabilities of children, young people and adults with regards to exploitation and criminal activities.
- Have identified “exit strategies” in partnership with other agencies and organisations.
- Know how to recognise signs of exploitation and where to report.
- Understand the significance of the Modern-Day Slavery Act (2015).

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
27/06/2024	Virtual Training via Zoom	9:30am	4:30pm

Tutor: Talking Life

Drug and Alcohol Awareness

Aim:

To gain an awareness of drugs and alcohol together with the risks and effects associated with misuse, the law and prevention measures.

Learning Objectives:

- Better understand Alcohol consumption and UK Drinking Guidelines
- Identify individuals whose drinking might be impacting their health and deliver simple advice aimed at reducing this risk.
- Develop greater awareness of the different types of drugs, drug paraphernalia and routes of administration
- Explore the physical and psychological effects of drugs and alcohol
- Recognise signs and symptoms of substance misuse
- Gain an understanding of UK drug and alcohol laws
- Know more about treatment options available to drug and alcohol users and how to refer to services

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
08/05/2024	Virtual via MS Teams	10:00am	11:30am
05/12/2024	Virtual via MS Teams	10:00am	11:30am

Tutor: Sarah Woodward, One Recovery Bucks

Impact of Parental Mental Illness

Aim:

This course aims to raise awareness and understanding of the impact of parental mental illness on children.

Learning Objectives:

On completion of this workshop, participants will:

- Understand the misconception of the term Mental Health
- Have awareness of the indicators of the impact on children whose parents/carers suffer from mental illness
- Understand the emotional harm that living with parents with mental illness can have on children and young people including young carers
- Identify the Risk and Protective Factors that play a key role in analysis and decision making
- Identify concerns about parenting capacity that may contribute to neglect
- Understand learning from Serious Case Reviews and the importance of working together – National and Local

Please note some of this course content overlaps with the Trilogy of Risk training

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
19/09/2024	Virtual Training Via Zoom	9:30am	4:30pm
11/03/2025	Virtual Training Via Zoom	9:30am	4:30pm

Tutor: Talking Life

Impact of Trauma on Children

Aim:

Understanding and assessment of the impact of trauma on the emotional and behavioural development of children. How to develop skills for intervening with trauma.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the training attendees will:

- Have developed an understanding of how trauma impacts on the social, emotional and cognitive development of children and adolescents
- Be aware of effective responses that enables traumatized children and adolescents to achieve better emotional regulation and feel understood and supported
- Be equipped with some skills to use in their work to support traumatized children and adolescents
- Be aware of tools available to assess the impact of trauma on children and adolescents
- Have acquired sufficient understanding to support to carers parenting these children and adolescents
- Have developed a clearer understanding of when to signpost to appropriate specialist health resources/services

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
05/11/2024	Virtual Training via MS Teams	9:30am	4:30pm

Tutor: Antser Training

Intra-familial Child Sexual Abuse for Social Workers

Aim:

Social work practice in cases of suspected child sexual abuse can be complex, emotional and challenging. Using a combination of practice experience, current research and the perspectives of children, young people and adult survivors, this course aims to improve the knowledge, skills and confidence of Social Workers in assessing and intervening with families where there are concerns of child sexual abuse. As a society, we are far too reluctant to talk about sex abuse within the family home. It's much easier to think of abuse happening elsewhere to other people. Prevention is the best form of protection. If we are to deal with incest or other abuse involving families or family friends, we must talk openly and honestly about the signs and symptoms – to protect children and to stop abusers in their tracks.

Learning Objectives:

- A better understanding of:
 - the scale and nature of child sexual abuse
 - how the impact of child sexual abuse presents in children, young people and adults
 - how children communicate their experiences of sexual abuse, and the professional role in helping them do this
 - how and why sexual abuse happens in families
 - the importance of a 'whole family' approach to assessing and intervening with families
- Improved ability to identify the potential signs and indicators of sexual abuse and sexually abusive behaviour
- Greater confidence in identifying and responding to concerns of intra-familial child sexual abuse
- The training will support you to improve your understanding of child sexual abuse within the family environment and help you to better identify signs and indicators and respond effectively to protect children.

Intended for: Social Workers in Children's Social Care

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
11/09/2024	Virtual Training Via Zoom	9:30am	5:00pm

Tutor: CSA Centre

Introduction to Life Story Work

Introduction:

Life story work has a purposeful role in mapping out the life journey for a child, including significant events, relationship networks, and achievements that have occurred in their life.

Learning Objectives:

- Why children in care need life story work
- What the Life Story Team at Buckinghamshire can offer
- What the referral process is
- How other professionals can support our work and our expectations from professionals making a referral

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
25/09/2024	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	10:00am	12:00noon

Tutor: Emanuela Popovici, Senior Social Worker, Life Story Work Team

Introduction to the Missing and Exploitation Hub

Introduction:

The Missing and Exploitation Hub supports victims of exploitation up to the age of 25 and includes members from children's social care, health and education departments, Thames Valley Police, Barnardo's RU Safe and a parent worker provided by the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Learning Objectives:

- To gain knowledge of the Missing and Exploitation Hub and their role within Children's Social Care
- To understand the thresholds and purpose of the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meeting
- To feel more equipped to ask curious questions
- To know where to access further support

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
11/07/2024	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	10:00am	11:30am
12/09/2024	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	10:00am	11:30am
14/11/2024	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	10:00am	11:30am
16/01/2025	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	10:00am	11:30am
13/03/2025	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	10:00am	11:30am

Tutor: Daniel Russell, CSE Specialist Social Worker

Introduction to Independent Reviewing Service

Introduction:

The Independent Reviewing Service makes an important contribution to the goal of improving outcomes for children & young people looked after.

Learning Objectives:

- The role of the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO).
- How the IRO works in partnership to review and support a child / young person looked after.
- How to prepare for and support a child / young person with their review.

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
24/04/2024	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	9:30am	11:00am
27/01/2025	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	9:30am	11:00am

Tutor: Lauren Watts, IRO Manager

Introduction to YJST (*Youth Justice & Support Team*)

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FACE TO FACE TRAINING

Introduction:

The Youth Justice & Support Team (YJST) helps prevent children and young people aged 10 to 18 from offending and re-offending. The service is made up of trained Social Workers, Probation Officers, Police Officers and staff with health and education backgrounds.

Learning Objectives:

- The structure of the Service and who works within the Team
- Who we work with and how cases are referred into YJST
- The different levels of intervention delivered by YJST
- A brief exploration into how we can improve joint work with other agencies in Bucks

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
06/02/2025	YOS Training Room, Walton House, Walton Street, Aylesbury	10:00am	12:00noon

Tutor: Alison Young, YOS Officer & Nicky Geldard, YOS Officer

Mentalisation Informed Practice

Aim:

At the core of 'mentalising' is the notion of how an individual conceives of another person's state of mind. (Interestingly, it's the key thread at the heart of the Disney/Pixar film Inside Out, for those who've seen it; and for those who haven't, I show a sort clip in the training!) In essence it centres upon what a parent thinks is in their child's mind ... about the parent; what Peter Fonagy and Patrick Luyten refer to as 'the capacity to understand ourselves and others in terms of intentional mental states'. The relevance for practitioners is that a parent's 'mentalising capacity' towards their child/ren is an indicator of how they are likely respond to their needs. Of even greater importance is that a practitioner's ability to offer a parent the experience of being mentalized themselves is a powerful way to help and support families as part of a relationship-based approach.

Learning Objectives:

On completion of the course, delegates will be able to:

- Explore ideas around 'mentalisation' and reflect upon how they apply to contemporary practice with families
- Appreciate how the most recent research on 'the art and science of relationships' can help practitioners remain emotionally available when survivors ... *and* practitioners ... are likely to be experiencing significant levels of 'dysregulation'
- Explore how these ideas relate to complementary approaches such as Motivational Interviewing and Strengthening Families
- Directly apply contemporary ideas on how teams and individuals can support each other drawing upon these ideas when undertaking complex work with families.

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
26/02/2025	Virtual Training Via MS Teams	10:00am	4:00pm

Tutor: Professor David Shemmings, OBE PhD Emeritus Professor of Child Protection Research, University of Kent and Visiting Professor, Royal Holloway, University of London

Parenting Assessments

Introduction:

The aim of this course is to assist Social Workers and Child & Family Workers when completing a basic parenting assessment.

Learning Objectives:

- How to plan a Parenting Assessment
- Enabling the tools for gathering information for the Parenting Assessment
- How to measure change
- How to formulate an analysis
- How to write up a Parenting Assessment

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
13/08/2024	Mezzanine 1, New County Offices, Aylesbury	10:00am	4:00pm
14/11/2024	Mezzanine 1, New County Offices, Aylesbury	10:00am	4:00pm

Tutor: Emma Sutherland, Senior Social Worker, Court Team

Producing Analytic Reports & Records

Learning Objectives:

At the end of the programme participants will be able to:

- Be able to develop their existing analytic skills when thinking about work with children and families
- Reflect on how they currently write about their work and how it can be extended
- Discuss how they use research findings in their reports and records
- Be able to write more relevant records and reports

Course Overview:

- What might need to change with what we do now?
- Differences between 'fact and opinion'
- Looking at a number of examples
- Differences between critical and descriptive reports
- Looking at the work of key writers in this field
- More specifically, what IS critical analysis in practitioner recording
- Using short film clips to put these ideas into practice

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
02/07/2024	Virtual Training Via MS Teams	10:00am	4:00pm

Tutor: Professor David Shemmings, OBE PhD Emeritus Professor of Child Protection Research, University of Kent and Visiting Professor, Royal Holloway, University of London

Restorative Approaches

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FACE TO FACE TRAINING

Aim:

Restorative Approaches provide an underpinning ethos and philosophy for making, maintaining and repairing relationships and for fostering a sense of social responsibility and shared accountability.

It is based on the belief that the people best placed to resolve a conflict or a problem are those directly involved, and that imposed solutions are less effective, less educative and possibly less likely to be honoured.

Learning Objectives:

- To gain an understanding of restorative approaches.
- Provide information and guidance on the underpinning ethos and philosophy for making, maintaining and repairing relationships.
- Fostering a sense of social responsibility and shared accountability.

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
21/06/2024	YOS Training Room, Walton House, Walton Street, Aylesbury	10:00am	4:00pm
25/10/2024	YOS Training Room, Walton House, Walton Street, Aylesbury	10:00am	4:00pm
14/02/2025	YOS Training Room, Walton House, Walton Street, Aylesbury	10:00am	4:00pm

Tutors: Claire Nugent, Restorative Justice and Early Intervention Co-ordinator, Buckinghamshire Youth Offending Service.

Serious Youth Violence

Learning Objectives:

This short session run by Buckinghamshire Council and Thames Valley Police will cover the following:

- Introduction and overview of the Serious Violence Agenda and New statutory duty
- Overview of the Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership Plan and Information Sharing Protocol and legal gateways
- What is intelligence
- Where do we obtain intelligence from
- Provenance – key questions to ask
- What do we do with the intelligence
- How to submit intelligence
- Review examples

Intended for: All relevant Children’s Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
10/01/2025	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	10:00am	11:00am

Tutors: Chris Geen, Community Safety Manager and Serious Organised/Violent Crime Agenda
PS Sian Griffiths, Thames Valley Police

SafeTALK Suicide Alertness

Learning Objectives:

Most people with thoughts of suicide don't want to die - instead, they are looking for a way to work through the pain in their lives. Through their words and actions, they usually invite others to help them in making a choice for life.

safeTALK teaches participants to recognise these invitations, engage with the person with thoughts of suicide, and connect them with resources to help them be safer from suicide. These resources could include health care professionals, first responders, or crisis line workers - among many others who have suicide intervention training.

Course Aims:

- Identify people thinking of suicide.
- Overcome barriers in talking about suicide.
- Identify reasons we may miss, dismiss or avoid suicide.
- Practice using the 4-step model of suicide alertness.
- Connect people at risk of suicide with further appropriate help.

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
12/12/2024	Virtual Via MS Teams Meeting	10:00am	12:00noon

Tutors: safeTALK

Understanding Section 47

Aim:

This course will assist practitioners with child protection responsibilities to reflect on the process of probing and reflective questioning and analysis to form a view about risk and harm and the parent’s capacity to meet their child’s needs. At the end of the course, participants will have developed their ability to critically evaluate practice actions and decision making to enable practitioners to be confident and persuasive when recommending a course of action to parents, to colleagues and to courts to protect a child.

Learning Objectives:

- The current legal framework for child protection enquiries
- Issues regarding collaborative practice with professionals in partner agencies and information sharing between professionals
- Techniques and skills for interviewing parents and carers
- Reflective and critical analysis of significant harm and informed decision making
- Review research finding and case reviews to inform participants about developments in guidance.

Intended for: Experienced children’s Social Workers who are undertaking S47 enquiries, child protection conferences and when necessary, making protective court applications.

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
30/01/2025	Virtual Training via Zoom	9:30am	4:30pm

Tutor: Talking Life

Working with Autism

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A 2 DAY FACE TO FACE TRAINING EVENT

Introduction:

This course has been developed to give Practitioners a greater awareness of autism, the pressures within the family associated with the diagnosis, and an understanding of strategies to sustain change and prevent family breakdown.

Learning Objectives:

Day 1:

- Understanding the needs of an Autistic person (the triad of impairment and strengths)
- Understanding the stressors and risks within families with Autism and possible strategies to reduce risk
- How to ensure effective and positive communication with families
- How to implement sustainable change

Day 2

- Strategies to address needs within the family home
- Using visuals and social stories within the family home
- Identifying and planning short term targets for change

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
15 & 16/05/2024	Mezzanine 3 NCO, Walton Street, Aylesbury	9:30am	4:30pm

Tutor: Tara Deakes, Headteacher, Westfield School

Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse

The focus will be on how to effectively and safely engage with perpetrators of domestic abuse. This will be addressed in part through self-reflection exercises. Delegates will be invited to recognise their own personal bias and how this can impact on risk assessments. Delegates will look at some of the theory that underpins perpetrators behaviour and use this understanding to develop skills in how to start discussions with perpetrators.

Aim:

This course is suitable for staff working directly with service users in Children's Services. The training is aimed at specialist staff and staff within Social Care and Early Help services who may be taking a whole family approach.

Learning Objectives:

- Be confident in starting initial discussion and risk assessments
- Understand how to manage disclosures
- Understand how to engage with perpetrators and families to reflect on the impact of Domestic Abuse on victim
- Be aware of tools and techniques to aid reflection within families and aid brief safety focused interventions
- Be aware of when to withdraw from pieces of work and support referrals to specialist services

Intended for: All relevant Children's Social Care staff

Date	Venue	Start	Finish
14/01/2025	Virtual Training via Teams	9:30am	4:30pm

Tutor: Talking Life