

COURSE TITLE: CHILDREN ACT 1989 AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW

Trainer:

Tom Owens is an experienced, professionally qualified social worker and trainer, specialising in child protection. He has worked in social work and education settings for over twenty years as a practitioner and Manager. Tom has been designing and delivering child protection training since 1995 and has been involved in writing child protection procedures for two local authorities.

Aims and Objectives:

The course aims to provide a systematic overview of this major piece of legislation, which informs and underpins both public and private law relating to children and young people in England and Wales. The course introduces the guiding principles behind the Act, and goes on to cover key concepts such as 'significant harm' and 'children in need'.

The statutory framework for child protection is outlined and the concept of a threshold for intervention by statutory services is explored.

The course is designed to be a 'foundation day' before considering the other one day courses in statutory child care which are offered on the programme.

Duration of course:

Whole day (09.30 to 16.30 with breaks)

Numbers:

Between 12 and 20 participants

Target Audience:

- Child care professionals who may have qualified or practiced overseas, considering a first statutory child care role in England and Wales
- Social workers planning to return to statutory child care after a career break
- Social workers considering a move into statutory child care from a related area
- Any professionals from other disciplines who may be referring to and joint working with Children's Services

drive network

quality health and social care training

Teaching Method:

The course runs in a seminar format which will enable maximum interaction between trainer and course participants. There is a comprehensive Power Point presentation, together with small group exercises to consolidate learning.

Course Synopsis:

- Guiding Principles
- 'Parental responsibility'
- 'Public' and 'private' child care law
- Working in partnership with families
- Thresholds for intervention
- 'Children in Need'
- Safeguarding and 'significant harm'
- Care Proceedings and the role of the Courts
- The 'No Order' principle
- Planning for children who are 'looked after' by the local authority
- Assessment tools - The 'Assessment Framework' (Department of Health, 2000) and the Common Assessment Framework (DCSF 2006)
- Children's Services Departments – organisation and structure
- 'Working Together' with other agencies
- Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs)