

CHAIRING CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES – SKILLS AND PRACTICE

TRAINER:

Mary Jacob is a registered social worker who has specialised in safeguarding and child protection since 1992. She is an independent trainer and consultant with a portfolio of experience that includes developing child protection practice and procedures both regionally and nationally, including contributing to Phase Two of the Victoria Climbié Enquiry.

Mary is currently working as an Independent Child Protection Conference Chair.

AIM:

To develop and improve participants' conference chairing skills, understanding of procedures and the role and responsibility of independent child protection conference chairs.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the day, participants will:

- Understand the expectations of their role, the purpose of the conference based on the statutory guidance that informs these
- Have developed and built on knowledge, skills and confidence to chair conferences
- Understand the importance of good and purposeful planning
- Have the skills to maximize multi-agency and family participation in conferences
- Know more about different approaches to Child Protection Conferences that are currently in use in England
- Have practiced some of the key skills necessary for chairing conferences

DURATION OF COURSE :

One day (9.30 - 4.30 with breaks)

NUMBERS :

Between 12 and 20 participants.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Social Workers in Children's Services looking to step develop new skills

Chairs looking to update their practice and sharpen their skills

TEACHING METHOD :

The course is delivered in seminar format. Learning will be through presentation, case studies, group discussion and exercises.

SYNOPSIS :

- Knowledge and skills needed to become an effective Independent Child Protection Conference Chair
- Comprehensive review of the guidance in 'Working Together' which underpins the conference process
- Current initiatives likely to inform changes to the guidance
- Review of different approaches to child protection conferences.
- 'Styles' of chairing