

COURSE TITLE:
CHILD DEVELOPMENT, ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING
(1) and (2)

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.

AIMS :

This two day course offers the opportunity to further develop an understanding of the relationship between child development, making good assessments and planning effectively for children.

The course examines some of the most important theories of child development and aims to link these practically to initial and core assessments, Court reports, s47 investigations and child protection/child in need planning.

The overall aim is to enable social workers to assess and analyse children's needs more comprehensively through an enhanced understanding of child development

LEARNING OUTCOMES :

By the end of the two days, participants will:

- Be able to explain in detail a range of theories about children's cognitive, emotional and psychological development, including the stages of development

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- Understand the value and importance of knowledge about child development in making good assessments and plans for children

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Be able to use the information from this course to enrich their assessments, analyses and reports on children's needs

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Explain how knowledge about child development will enable them to determine SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound) outcomes and plans for children

DURATION OF COURSE :

This is a two day course, currently offered on two consecutive Saturdays.

It is essential to book and complete both days, both for learning needs and for the certification process.

NUMBERS :

Ideally between 12 and 20 participants.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

The course has been designed to meet the needs of Social Workers in local authority Children's Services and also in other organizations where assessment and planning for children takes place.

TEACHING METHOD:

The course is delivered in seminar format with supporting Powerpoint presentation and video. Participants will also undertake some work in small groups and will participate in group discussion and debate.

COURSE SYNOPSIS :

- Detailed examination of child development theories and theoretical approaches, including Freud, Erikson, Bowlby and Piaget as well as the ecological approach, 'nature vs nurture' and attachment theory.
- Evaluation of the above to enable participants to determine the theory/approach most suited to their style of working.
- Application of theoretical information to practice, looking at the range of uses for assessments, plans and reports.
- Development of enhanced skills of analysis and planning based on additional knowledge of child development.
- Skills and practice in relation to information gathering, chronology of events and case recording