

Course Title: Permanency and Long Term Care for Children who are Looked After

Trainers :

Chris Anderson is a registered social worker of over 25 years standing who has worked extensively with children and young people who present complex and challenging behaviours.

Chris worked in residential care for many years and has managed a number of care homes and social work teams, supporting foster carers and children who are looked after. She currently works as a consultant, freelance trainer, and also chairs a fostering panel in addition to providing training and support for a number of fostering agencies, and local authorities.

Peter Sadler is a teacher, trainer and facilitator with more than thirty years experience in the field. He was instrumental in setting up one of the first Behaviour Support Services in the country outside London, and is committed to working in a research based and reflective way.

Peter is now applying these skills with foster care workers where his interests lie in creating a professional development structure for the carers. He is particularly interested in the issues which are faced by men in care work.

Aims and Objectives

The course aims to compare and contrast short and long term foster care and to explore the particular skills that may be required in the role of the long term carer

The course will provide a forum for those potentially involved with long term foster care to discuss their role, and to share thoughts and feelings in a safe and informative environment.

This course will hopefully offer carers the information required to make some choices about undertaking long term fostering as a preferred choice.

Duration of course

Whole day (9.30 - 4.30 with breaks)

Numbers

Between 12 and 20 participants

Target Audience

The course is designed for all professionals working with children and young people in health and social care, especially those who may become involved with permanency and long term care, or would like to have more insight and understanding.

Teaching Method

The course is conceived in seminar format, to enable maximum interaction between trainer and course participants. There is a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation, together with small group exercises to facilitate experiential learning.

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Course Synopsis

- What is long term care?
- Working in partnership with birth families
- What does long term care mean to the foster carers and their families
- The balance of long term care – 'you are always the foster carer'
- What role does society have for the long term foster carer?
- The Courts and local authority's role in long term care placements
- Growing up and moving on - the foster carer's role.
- Working with other agencies.
- Lack of understanding about the role and the potential for discrimination
- The foster carers role with the next generation ('are they my grandchildren' - what is my role?)