

Course Title: Supporting Carers and Protecting Children

Trainer

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.

Aims and Objectives

This is a forum where foster carers have the opportunity to discuss, learn debate and gain support, to manage their roles as foster carers, with experienced facilitators.

The concept of 'safe care' is explored, in relation to carers themselves, their families and the children placed with them. The impact of fostering on the family unit is explored from various perspectives, and there is time given to the question of professional vulnerability and complaints.

Duration of course

One whole day (9.30 – 4.30 with breaks)

Numbers

Between 12 and 25 participants

Target Audience

The course is designed to meet the particular needs of foster carers and their families.

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

Course Synopsis

- The ways in which fostering will change the lives of carers and their families
- Enabling carers and their families express their needs
- How fostering affects the children of foster carers.
- Providing a safe environment for carers, their families and children in their care
- Professional vulnerability and the process of investigating complaints about carers
- The impact of a complaint on the foster caring family
- Where carers can get help and support if a complaint takes place.
- What is fostering
- I am a foster carer what does that mean
- What is societies understanding of fostering
- Promoting safe care at all times
- The impact of a complaint
- The support available for foster carers
- The long term impact of a complaint.