

Course Title: Caring for Young Parents and Their 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. She worked in residential care for many years and managed a number of care homes, and social work teams, supporting foster carers and children who are looked after.

Chris is currently working as a consultant, freelance trainer, and also chairs a fostering panel. Additionally she provides training and support for a number of fostering agencies, and local authorities.

Aims and Objectives

This course aims provide an introductory course to for foster carers who wish to develop their skills in fostering to offer 'parent and child' placements.

The differences and additional demands of this type of fostering are explored, particularly the importance of empowering young parents and working in partnership with them.

Agency roles and responsibilities are outlined, including child protection issues.

Duration of course

Two days (9.30 – 4.30 with a breaks)

Numbers

Between 12 and 25 participants

Target Audience

The course is designed to meet the needs of existing foster carers who may be considering widening their role to include parent and child placements.

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

- How is a parent and child placement different?
- Working in partnership with young parents and their children
- Being prepared for the placement
- The balance between support and understanding
- Empowering the parent or parents
- Promoting good parenting and child health awareness
- The parents needs – peer support and access to education
- Working with young fathers, including the 'fear factor'
- What does a young parent need from a foster carer?
- The agency's policies and procedures, including child protection