

Safeguarding Children and Adults with Disabilities

Friday 23rd September 2016
09:30 —16:30

Easthampstead Park Conference Centre
off Peacock Lane, Wokingham, RG40 3DF

Delegate rate £60

The focus of this year's conference is Safeguarding Children and Adults with Disabilities. The conference will provide an opportunity for practitioners working across a range of services to come together to develop their skills and knowledge.

There will be two keynote speakers from leading national organisations, the Ann Craft Trust to address the challenges and opportunities in safeguarding practice and the Council for Disabled Children, talking about practical approaches to supported decision making.

Delegates will also have the opportunity to attend two workshops to focus on areas of practice relevant to their individual learning needs, facilitated by representatives from both local and national services. The full programme and workshop options are listed below.

Target audience:

Practitioners from adults' and children's services within the statutory, private and voluntary sector including police, schools, children's centres, social care, health staff and anyone working or volunteering with vulnerable adults, children, young people and their families in the Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham areas.

Please note that whilst efforts will be made to avoid it, the programme, workshops and speakers may be subject to change.

Closing date for applications: 9 September 2016



Programme

09:00 Registration and refreshments

09:30 Welcome and introduction to the day – *Brian Walsh, Independent Chair, West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board*

09:45 Keynote Speaker – *Sarah Goff, The Ann Craft Trust*

Challenges in safeguarding disabled children and adults at risk

Sarah Goff is the Safeguarding Disabled Children Manager for the Ann Craft Trust. Sarah has longstanding experience as a residential, hospital and field social worker, a counselling manager at ChildLine. She has been a Safeguarding Board trainer going on to Chair child protection conferences, promoting participation and creative approaches to multi-agency practice to support families. She has researched sexual exploitation and increased risks to young people with learning disabilities and is currently working on projects seeking to safeguard and protect disabled children living away from home.

10:30 Refreshment break and networking

11:00 Keynote Speaker – *Caroline Bennett, Council for Disabled Children*

Practical approaches to the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and supported decision making for young people

Caroline is a key player in ensuring the success of CDC's social care training programmes which look at the links between recent changes in legislation and supporting young people as they prepare for adulthood. Caroline was the Director of a community interest company that she set up to support young people with autism to engage in outdoor adventure activities. She has volunteered and worked with disabled children and young people since she was 16 and continues to support a family during her spare time. Her experience of supporting families to navigate existing support systems has allowed her to see how challenging this system can be both for families and the professionals working within it. Caroline is passionate about using her wealth of experience to change and improve outcomes for disabled people.

12:30 Buffet Lunch

13:30 Workshop 1

14:30 Refreshment break and networking

14:45 Workshop 2

15:45 Plenary and close of conference – *Fran Gosling-Thomas, Independent Chair Local Safeguarding Children's Boards in Reading, West Berkshire, Wokingham*

16:15 Close

Workshops

Workshop 1 – Don't talk over me! Look, listen, observe!

Developing a voice, choice and participation: communication and participation skills.

Facilitated by Sarah Goff from the Ann Craft Trust. The Ann Craft Trust is based in the Centre for Social Work at the University of Nottingham where it focuses on safeguarding people with disabilities, working across the lifespan exploring all forms of abuse particularly sexual abuse and exploitation. It has a dynamic team, working across the country to develop policy and practice and provide training in the prevention of harm and abuse, developing choice and resilience, independence and a voice for children and adults with disabilities.

This workshop will explore the value base which informs how practitioners approach communication and the participation of children with learning and communication impairment. It also will explore how effective we are in listening and observing and in enabling children, young people and adults to let us know when they feel unsafe and experience harm.

The workshop is aimed at both Children's and Adults' practitioners.

Workshop 2 – How to support and safeguard children in a care setting

Facilitated by colleagues from Bridges Resource Centre which provides support for disabled children with a wide range of additional needs and long term conditions. Bridges' ethos is to provide a safe, fun and stimulating environment in which children are encouraged to develop daily living skills.

This workshop will illustrate how an outstanding Ofsted rated service works to safeguard disabled children and young people aged 8 - 18 years in a care setting.

The workshop is aimed at Children's practitioners.

Workshop 3 – Autism: challenging our perceptions

Facilitated by: Dr Trevor Powell, an experienced practising Consultant Clinical Psychologist with over 30 years of experience working in the field of Adult Mental Health and Neuropsychology, and Ann Wilson, a Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorder. She has a special interest in working with those who have a diagnosis of ASD and who are victims or witnesses to crime. Trevor and Ann work for Berkshire Healthcare NHS Trust.

The workshop will highlight the characteristics of adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder and identify how these characteristics may make them vulnerable and open to exploitation by others. It will also highlight why these adults often struggle to engage with statutory services such as healthcare and the justice system.

The workshop is aimed at Adults' practitioners.

Workshop 4 – SEND Reforms (0-25 years), including Transitions and Education, Health & Care Plans

Facilitated by Tracy Fenty (SEN Project Officer) & Sheila Reynolds (SEN Manager) from Reading Borough Council, working in conjunction with the West of Berkshire Joint Implementation Group

This workshop is aimed at practitioners working with young people with special educational needs and or disabilities (SEND). We will look at what we have to do in order to prepare young people for adulthood in line with the responsibilities set out in Children and Families Act 2014 and the supporting Code of Practice.'

The workshop is aimed at both Children's and Adults' practitioners.

Workshop 5 – Hate and Mate Crime

Facilitated by service users with learning disabilities, supported by colleagues from Wokingham Borough Council. The Learning Disability Partnership Board works to make sure that people with learning disabilities have the same opportunities and responsibilities as everyone else, and are treated with the same dignity and respect.

The workshop will highlight what hate and mate crime is and who may be a target. Learning from real life examples, delegates will become more confident about spotting the signs and using the available support for when these crimes are identified.

The workshop is aimed at both Children's and Adults' practitioners.

Workshop 6 – Fire Home Safety checks for adults and children

Facilitated by Paul Hutt and Melanie O'Hare, risk reduction practitioners in the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service Prevention Department. Both are skilled in providing safety messages to a wide range of people supporting the Fire Service's commitment to educate people on how to prevent fire and other emergencies. They work with partners, schools, businesses, residents and community groups throughout Berkshire to raise awareness and educate people about a wide variety of issues contributing to a broader health and well-being agenda.

The workshop will focus on the key risks identified by RBFRS across a wide variety of audiences. The aim will be to inform attendees of the indicators of risk and so reducing the risk of fire through preventative measures.

The workshop is aimed at both Children's and Adults' practitioners.

Closing date for applications: 9 September 2016

To book your place, go to **wokingham.learningpool.com**

Create yourself an account if you don't already have one.

Telephone 0118 974 6116 for queries.

Cancellation less than 7 days before the conference date or un-notified non-attendance will incur a £75 fine.