



WORKSHOP BOOKING FORM

Contact – My Family, My Future and Me....

*Keeping the needs of the child at the centre of decision making
(2-day workshop)*

THEME

Contact is one of the most challenging and controversial aspects of planning for Looked After Children. Throughout the period of their accommodation, Courts, Children's Hearings and Local Authorities are charged with keeping the best interests of children as their paramount concern. Are we helping each child to achieve beneficial contact? Do parental, legal and agency pressures deflect us from keeping the child's perspective at the centre of decision-making? Does current policy and guidance support workers to make good judgements regarding when contact should be reduced or terminated?

Whether considering temporary accommodation, kinship arrangements or permanence through adoption or fostering, this workshop will explore current approaches to decision-making about contact between the child and their birth family in all the differing circumstances. All aspects will be examined in the context of practice knowledge and experience, the legal framework and past and recent research initiatives and findings.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Delegates will:

- Gain a more knowledgeable overview of the duties and responsibilities of practitioners in respect of the child, their parents and the law.
- Explore the pressure of birth family considerations, agency considerations, Children's Hearings, the Courts, and how all of these may have impacted on the development of practice around contact today.
- Learn about and consider research about contact, and its impact on past and current social work practice.
- Have the opportunity to reflect on their own practice, and the practice of their agencies, with other delegates and the workshop facilitators.
- Consider how to support all parties involved to improve the child's contact experience, and how to lay the foundations for positive child centred planning about contact, should the child move on to adoption and permanence.
- Consider how to improve their own contribution to the planning process and how to support informed and child focussed decision-making within their agency.
- Consider how to write reports for all forums; to lay out factual information and to provide professional opinion, to support and explain recommendations that represent the child's best interests.

Facilitators: Alison Wilson, Child Placement Consultant, AFA Scotland
Rhona Pollock, Legal Consultant, AFA Scotland

Dates: 25 & 26 April, 2017
Venue: Glasgow (to be confirmed)
Times: Registration: 9.30am
Start: 10.00am
Close: 4.30pm

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DELEGATE INFORMATION

Name: _____
Position: _____
Organisation: _____
Address: _____
_____ Post Code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Dietary/Disability Access Requirements: _____

PAYMENT METHOD

Billing Address/invoice: _____
_____ Post Code: _____
Purchase Order Number: _____

Member Rate £195.00 Non Member Rate £235.00
Individual Member Rate £175.00
Please invoice: Remittance enclosed:
Cheque (including VAT) made payable to AFA Scotland

CANCELLATION POLICY

After receipt of written confirmation of place allocated	25% of fee
Cancellation between two and four weeks prior to the date	50% of fee
Cancellation between one week and two weeks prior to the date	75% of fee
Cancellation within one week of the date	100% of fee

Please return your completed form to:

Brenda Reilly, Business Support & Finance Manager
AFA Scotland, Conference House,
152 Morrison Street, The Exchange, Edinburgh EH3 8EB
Tel: 0131 248 2403 Email: info@afascotland.com

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Invoice Number: _____
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