



ONLINE WORKSHOP BOOKING FORM

Interviewing Children

Supporting children to tell us what has happened to them and presenting this to Courts, Internal Reviews and Children's Hearings

Facilitator: Rhona Pollock, Legal Consultant
Date & Time: Tuesday 28 September 2021 - 10.00am – 2.00pm
Venue: Online Platform – MS Teams
Cost: £85.00 + VAT

Follow-up Session
Date & Time: Thursday 30 September 2021 - 11.00am – 12.00pm

THEME

“Children must be listened to and meaningfully and appropriately involved in decision-making about their care, with all those involved properly listening and responding to what children want and need.”
Independent Care Review -The Promise

“The court must ensure that the decision is explained to the child concerned in a way that the child can understandwhere it considers it appropriate to explain that decision to the child concerned.”

The child must be given an opportunity to express their views in *“the manner that the child prefers, or a manner that is suitable to the child”* and regard must be given to any views the child has expressed *“taking into account the child’s age and maturity.”*

Children (Scotland) Act 2020

There will be times when the practitioner needs to interview a child to establish the facts of the case and ascertain the child’s truth. To be effective, the adult must be child centred and child driven, acknowledging the child’s feelings and needs and responding to the child’s concerns. It requires forming a rapport, building trust, explaining roles and most importantly helping the child to understand their own rights and responsibilities in the process. Successful interview techniques rely on using the appropriate communication tools. This is a vital aspect of our jobs as adults involved in child welfare. How do we make sure we are achieving this while complying with the new and existing domestic and international legislation and aspiring to keep The Promise?

This workshop will equip the practitioner with knowledge of the legislation, case law and guidance while drawing on research and protocols in an interactive, safe and informed environment.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Gain a greater understanding of the role of practitioners in supporting the child to provide a reliable account of events.
- Familiarisation with the relevant processes, best practice, legislation and precedent.
- Develop the habit of professional record keeping and report writing which is fit for purpose.
- Present information to decision makers in Court, Internal Reviews and Children's Hearings.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The workshop is as suitable for the seasoned practitioner as for anyone new to the field and vital for any professional who is responsible for interviewing a child, gathering evidence, putting forward the child’s views and supporting recommendations to decision-making bodies. Local authority solicitors, children’s reporters, safeguarders, *curators ad litem*, child welfare officers, solicitors and social workers will find it invaluable in developing and applying interviewing skills.

AFA SCOTLAND ONLINE WORKSHOP BOOKING FORM

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DELEGATE INFORMATION

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Position: _____
Organisation: _____
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_____ Post Code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____

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Billing Address/invoice: _____
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Member rate £85.00 + VAT Non-Member rate £115.00
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Please invoice:
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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: info@afascotland.com

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