



NCERCC Notes – July 2009

1. New on NCERCC website this month

www.ncb.org.uk/ncercc

- July Talking point - A paper given by Jonathan Stanley at the Inaugural Conference of the Child Care History Network on 23rd October 2008, on "[What Does it Matter? To Whom? How? Why? The role of memory in Residential Child Care](#)"
- A [document from Cambridgeshire](#) on Behaviour Management in residential children's homes
- [Link to CRAE resources](#) to celebrate 20th Anniversary of UNCRC
- A report from the Pupil Inclusion Unit, published in 2003, on the [Education of Children in Public Care](#)
- A [risk assessment pro forma](#) for children and young people attending group holidays including examples of good practice in documenting information pertaining to risk.
- The [Social Pedagogues in Western Europe](#) - some implications for European interprofessional care.
- [How to remunerate and reward children and young people's involvement](#) - this guide will introduce some practical examples of how to remunerate and reward children and young people and look at issues surrounding the development of a remuneration and reward policy.
- Guides from SCIE on: [Leading practice, a first-line managers' development programme](#); [Managing practice](#); [Learning organisations, a self-assessment resource pack](#); [Learning together](#); [Improving social and health care service](#); [Social care governance, A practice workbook](#).
- [Background](#) to the recent article in CYP Now on numbers of children in residential child care – see item 2.
- An [NCERCC book review](#) of Managing Children's Homes: Developing Effective Leadership in Small Organisations
- A [House of Lords debate](#) on Residential Child Care

2. Councils 'capping' care places

<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/Archive/login/915108/>

http://partner.ncb.org.uk/ncercc/ncercc%20practice%20documents/ncercc_cypnowarticle.pdf

Jonathan Stanley, Manager of NCERCC, was recently quoted in an article in Children & Young People Now. An NCERCC paper gives background to the article.

3. Government & Associated

Government re-shuffle

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page19564>

There are some interesting changes, including that Lord Mandelson's new Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, which combines the old Business dept with DUIS, has ten junior ministers, but many of these have joint responsibilities with other departments, including Kevin Brennan, who is now a Minister of State in both DBIS and DCSF.

In DCSF, there is lots of change and two new ministers. As well as Kevin Brennan's new joint role, Sarah MacCarthy-Fry has been moved out to the Dept of Communities & Local Govt, and Jim Knight has moved to Dept of Work and Pensions. The new line up in the DCSF is now:

- Minister of State - The Rt Hon Dawn Primarolo MP (attending Cabinet when appropriate)
- Minister of State - Vernon Coaker MP
- Minister of State - Kevin Brennan MP (jointly with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills)
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State - Iain Wright MP
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State - Baroness Morgan of Drefelin
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (unpaid) - Diana Johnson MP (and Assistant Government Whip - paid)

Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/safeguardingandsocialcare/safeguardingchildren/safeguarding/>

This guidance is aimed at LSCB partners, practitioners and other professionals working with children and young people. It is intended to help them safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people who are at risk, or who are being, sexually exploited. It is supplementary to, and should be used in conjunction with, the Government's statutory guidance Working together to Safeguard Children.

Red tape-cutting suggestions needed from children's workforce

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/news-and-communications/150609nibetterregulation/>

The DCSF's Better Regulation Unit has revitalised its website, and is asking for members of the children's workforce to visit the site to share their practical suggestions for reducing bureaucracy. The BRU aims to reduce bureaucracy and regulation resulting from the Department's policies.

Online health self assessment for teenagers launched

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/Content/Detail.asp?ReleaseID=403131&NewsAreaID=2>

The Department of Health is launching a free, online lifestyle self-assessment service to help teenagers improve their health and wellbeing. NHS Teen LifeCheck uses an interactive quiz to offer health and lifestyle information to 12-15 year olds. The online tool offers information on a range of issues including physical activity, nutrition, solvents and illegal drugs, sexual health, alcohol and smoking. NHS Teen LifeCheck also covers emotional wellbeing.

Fire prevention strategy for working with children and young people

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/fire/pdf/fsc332009.pdf>

This Circular outlines the plans that the Department for Communities and Local Government, Fire and Rescue Service has made to develop a new Strategy for 2010-2013 that Fire and Rescue Services will be able to use effectively to engage with children and young people to drive down levels of fire-crime and numbers of accidental fires and casualties.

One in six 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/education/article6511626.ece

More than one in six 16 to 18-year-olds are not in education, employment or training, according to figures from the Department for Children, Schools and Families. In 2008, the number of 'Neets' rose to 10.3 per cent from 9.7 per cent in 2007. Martina Milburn, Chief Executive of the Prince's Trust, said 'Too many young people leaving school with few qualifications face a downward spiral towards loss of self-confidence and even crime, homelessness and drug use. Jobless teenagers will cost the state billions of pounds if we fail to help them into work, education or training. All of us will feel the impact'.

Balls pledges cash for September Guarantee training offer

<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/ByDiscipline/Education/913237/Balls-pledges-cash-September-Guarantee-training-offer/>

Children's Secretary Ed Balls has confirmed £655m of funding to guarantee a place in education or training for every 16- and 17-year-old from September this year. The funding comes in the wake of an unprecedented rise in demand for places, caused in part by the recession. The cash equates to an extra 22,500 places for students, and will fulfil the government's September Guarantee, which promises an offer of education and training for every 16- and 17-year-old.

Ofsted guidance to inspectors

www.nasschools.org.uk/files/Ofsted%20information%20for%20inspectors%20111.doc

www.nasschools.org.uk/files/Ofsted%20information%20for%20inspectors%20100.doc

At a recent Ofsted meeting, it was agreed that providers should have access to the guidance given to inspectors on CRB disclosures. The two linked documents set out how Ofsted will deal with CRB during inspection and registration of provision.

Vetting and Barring Scheme Update

http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/pdf/ISA_Stakeholder_newsletter_MAY_2009_V3.pdf

The Independent Safeguarding Authority has released its May newsletter. There are still some ISA information road show events to come and booking details are in the newsletter.

NCB head calls on leaders to prevent undermining of reforms

<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/ByDiscipline/Education/913291/NCB-head-calls-leaders-prevent-undermining-reforms/>

The chief executive of the National Children's Bureau has called for stronger political leadership to prevent the recession undermining the Every Child Matters agenda. Speaking at the National Children's Bureau summer reception, Paul Ennals said the children's sector was already preparing for cuts in public spending. "We need clear leadership that says what the most important areas to preserve are," he said. "Otherwise preventative work, play, participation the areas that don't immediately show short term benefits will be hit worse."

4. Residential Short Breaks Project Report

<http://www.sharedcarenetwork.org.uk/dynamic/scn17.jsp>

The Shared Care Network have produced a report on the findings of a viability study to explore the possibility of setting up a national network for non-family based short break services.

5. Training, Support and Development Standards for Short Break Carers

<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/social-care/short-break-carers>

A set of training and development standards for short break carers has been launched by the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC). The Training, Support and Development Standards for Short Break Carers provide a structured approach to the assessment and training of short break carers. They cover their preparation and assessment in the 12 months following their approval as carers or from taking up their role.

6. Children in Care Council Consultation

<http://www.croa.org.uk/>

The Children In Care Councils Consortium has been set up aiming to support and coordinate developments of the councils in each local authority and across the country. The idea of Children In Care Councils was first announced as part of Care Matters. NCERCC and CROA (Children's Rights Officers and Advocates) see the need for local, regional and national support and coordination. They are anticipating the Consortium growing as other children's organisations become included. If you would like to be part of the consortium then please forward your details to Kamna Dev, Campaigns and Policy Officer at CROA - kamna@croa.org.uk

7. Comic Relief funding for work around sexual exploitation of young people

http://comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/uk

Comic Relief has now launched its 8 new funding programmes for the UK, including a programme for sexually exploited and/or trafficked young people. The new programme is a broad one with an overall aim : to reduce harm to young people from sexual exploitation and trafficking.

8. National College for Leadership of Schools and Children's Services

<http://www.ncsl.org.uk/aboutus-index.htm>

Formerly the National College for School Leadership the new name underlines the increasingly integrated nature of the work of leaders in schools, children's services and children's centres, and strongly reflects a shared commitment to improving the lives and life chances of children and young people. The College's remit will now include responsibility for the leadership development of leaders in schools, children's centres and children's services.

The new name was chosen following consultation with school leaders, directors of children's services and children's centre leaders. Significantly, it retains the words 'National College'. This is an important link to the College's current identity, which is well recognised in schools and children's centres. The new name and logo will come into effect in September.

The RCC sector will be interested in all aspects but particularly the last bulletpoint as the college has also been asked to:

- develop an executive leadership programme for the most experienced directors of children's services
- support the identification of directors of children's services who, with their teams, have the capacity and expertise to help children's services in other authorities who might need their help and value their expertise
- support succession planning and talent management strategies in children's services at local level
- develop an accelerated leadership programme (fast stream) to enable talented potential leaders to move more rapidly into senior leadership

- ensure that NCSL is a college for senior leaders in children's services as well as for school and children's centre leaders. The existing Leadership Network will have an enhanced membership scheme. The new scheme will give all leaders the opportunity to deepen the engagement they have with the College and with each other. NCERCC are seeking assurance that this will include RCC leaders in all sectors as 'senior leader of children's services.'

9. The Mitchemp Trust

<http://www.mitchemptrust.org.uk/Our-Vision-and-Programme/menu-id-296.html>

The Mitchemp Trust is a registered youth development charity working with vulnerable young people aged 11 to 14 years old from across Wiltshire who are suffering the effects of poverty and rural isolation. The Trust was established in 1992 by David Hempleman-Adams and Major Richard Mitchell, both well known for their record breaking Arctic, Antarctic and mountain climbing expeditions. They agreed that early experiences in challenging themselves through the outdoors had shown them that they could achieve more than they thought. The idea led to the realisation that many young people, for a variety of reasons, often do not have the opportunity to start the 'believe – achieve' process and make the most of their lives. The Mitchemp Trust aims to reach vulnerable young people. Those that may be experiencing difficulties at school because of their social skills or behaviour. Young people who are socially excluded, having difficulties at home, experiencing health problems, bullying or those that would benefit from the opportunity to develop their confidence and self esteem in order to unlock their potential.

10. Fear and Fashion Awards

<http://www.lemosandcrane.co.uk/home/index.php?id=202248>

The Fear and Fashion Awards are for outstanding examples of projects or casework that have proved successful in helping young people to stop carrying and using knives - for fear of attack or as a badge of belonging to a group or gang. This work can include: Preventative work to raise awareness of the problem among young people and the wider community; Working with young people convicted of knife-related offences to change attitudes and behaviour; Using mentoring to provide young people with positive role models; Reducing conflict in a structured way through mediation; Helping young people affected by gangs and negative groups; Engaging with parents of young people who are carrying or using knives. The deadline for submitting your entry is **Friday 14th August 2009**.

11. Resources

How to remunerate and reward children and young people's involvement

<http://www.participationworks.org.uk/resources/how-to-remunerate-and-reward-children-and-young-peoples-involvement>

This guide will introduce some practical examples of how to remunerate and reward children and young people and look at issues surrounding the development of a remuneration and reward policy.

Quality Matters in Children's Services

<http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/book.php/isbn/9781843109266>

Quality Matters in Children's Services brings together authoritative research to explore critical concerns for those working with vulnerable children, young people and their families.

Subjects covered include reunification, stability and wellbeing, kinship care, educating

vulnerable young people, child protection, domestic violence and parental substance misuse, the participation of disabled young people and advocacy services.

A Short Introduction to Attachment and Attachment Disorder

<http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/book.php/isbn/9781843109570>

This book presents a short and accessible introduction to what 'attachment' means and how to recognise attachment disorders in children. The author explains how complex problems in childhood may stem from the parent-child relationship during a child's early formative years, and later from the child's engagement with the broader social world. It explores the mindset of difficult and traumatised children and the motivations behind their apparently antisocial and defensive tendencies.

Creative Coping Skills for Children - Emotional Support through Arts and Crafts Activities

<http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/book.php/isbn/9781843109211>

Everyone has different needs when it comes to coping with life's stressors, and children are no different. Some need quiet and soothing activities to calm them down, whereas others require more physical activity or intense sensory input to relax their minds and bodies. This resource comprises a collection of fun, flexible, tried-and-tested activities and make-it-yourself workbooks for parents and professionals to help a child in need of extra emotional support find the coping skills that fit them best.

The relationship between child maltreatment, sexual abuse and subsequent suicide attempts

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/research/Findings/suicidePDF_wdf66095.pdf

This report evaluates the link between child abuse and suicide in childhood or later life and looks at other risk factors present during childhood and early adolescence that are likely to compound the effects of such abuse.

Breaking the wall of silence Practitioners' responses to trafficked children and young people

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/research/Findings/breaking_the_wall_of_silence_wda65628.html

This report reveals the complexities involved in identifying and responding to the needs of children and young people who have been trafficked into and within the UK. It argues that trafficking is a process, not a one-off event. Trafficking is often hidden behind a wall of silence with children and young people on one side, afraid or unable to talk, and practitioners on the other, finding it hard to identify the child or young person, respond to their needs or prosecute their abusers. Practitioners often see trafficking as a crime or immigration issue rather than one of child protection. The study involved almost 90 practitioners over two years in three areas of the UK and analysed 37 case histories of trafficked children and young people. The research gives insight into how practitioners have worked with and sometimes overcome these problems while maintaining the child's best interests.

Fathers Matter DVD

<http://www.frg.org.uk/videos.html>

The Family Rights Group have produced a new DVD - Fathers Matter - that looks at working with fathers whose children have been subject to child protection enquiries or are in the care system.

Keynotes

<http://www.leavingcare.org/data/tmp/5539-11365.pdf>

The latest edition of *Keynotes, The Magazine for the Leaving Care World*, is now available online.

12. Conferences/Training – in date order

Parental mental health and child welfare – think child, think parent, think family

<http://www.pavpub.com/pavpub/conferences/showfull.asp?Conference=853>

An estimated one-third to two-thirds of children whose parents have mental health problems will experience difficulties themselves and child care social workers estimate that 50-90 per cent of parents on their caseload have mental health problems, alcohol or substance misuse issues and it is a significant factor for children entering the care system. The Social Care Institute's for Excellence (SCIE) essential new Guidance on Parental Mental Health and Child Welfare will be launched on 7th July 2009. The guidance, designed to transform strategy and practice has identified practical solutions to interagency collaborative working, aimed to reduce the potential negative impact of parental mental health on families and children in particular. The guidance is about achieving the dual outcomes of securing safeguards in the present and promoting the health and well-being and needs of all family members for the future.

7 July, London

Attachment revisited: A day with Kate Cairns

http://www.baaf.org.uk/res/training/details/090709_conf.shtml

Attachment has become an increasingly important topic for child care social workers and educators. Many will feel they are familiar with the basic concept and will be using their understanding as core knowledge in their work with children and families. The conference will provide an opportunity for delegates to consider attachment theory. This will include considering the implications of differing styles of attachment for children and young people, their teachers and carers. It will explore the possibility of using educational and substitute care settings to provide reparative care for children and young people whose attachment patterns create serious difficulties at home and at school. This will include the importance of recognising secondary trauma and of providing appropriate support for those caring for traumatised children.

9 July 09, London

The Power of Storytelling as a Teaching Tool

<http://www.niace.org.uk/campaigns-events/events/power-of-storytelling>

Storytelling is currently undergoing a huge revival as educators everywhere are re-discovering its power as a teaching tool. Everybody loves a good story. Apart from being entertaining, a good story has the capacity to attract and hold our attention as it teaches us important lessons.

10 July, Leeds

15 September, Durham

Care Matters : The Time For Change Is Now - The Future Of Looked-After Children Is In Our Hands

<http://www.cppseminars.org.uk/site/dpb.cfm?do=ref&fldCPPSref=FSW/249&varDetProgBiog=det>

This CPPS seminar brings together key figures from across sectors in the important debate on how to tackle the challenges for all agencies in society to ensure the best possible outcomes in

life for looked-after children. The day encourages brief, focussed presentations followed by engaged discussion by all attending in a relaxed setting. It is hoped that it will make a valuable contribution to taking forward the issues.

13 July, 2009, London

C4EO - Safeguarding events

<http://www.c4eo.org.uk/events/safeguarding.aspx>

These conferences, organised by C4EO, are for Directors' of Children's Services and Children's Trust Senior Leads. The events aim to provide timely, up to date information for quality assurance in child protection and safeguarding. The conferences have been specifically requested by Directors of Children's Services (DCS) and support the aim of the National Safeguarding Delivery Unit to create a shared evidence base of effective practice. The programme for each conference will focus on: Supporting the difficult decisions of front line staff; Effective interventions in addressing risk of neglect /or significant harm; Maintaining oversight and review of cases in light of changing circumstances.

14 July London

15 July London

21 July Birmingham

23 July Manchester

Post-adoption contact: The way forward

http://www.baaf.org.uk/res/training/details/090914_conf.shtml

Public and professional views as to the desirability, or otherwise, of adopted children being able to have some form of contact with their birth families have totally changed over the last few decades. Contact in some form between adoptive families and birth families after the granting of an adoption order has become the norm rather than the exception. This has led to lively debates between and within professional remits and feelings of uncertainty for all involved. This conference will look at recent research on post-adoption contact between adoptees/adoptive families and birth families, as well as the broader issue of openness within adoptive families.

14 Sept 09, Manchester

Childhood Epilepsy Study Day for Speech and Language Therapists

http://www.ncype.org.uk/epilepsy/childhood_epilepsy_training_for_professionals/speech_and_language_therapists/

15 September 2009, NCYPE, Surrey

Looked After Children: Building Constructive Relationships to Ensure Successful Outcomes

<http://www.westminster-briefing.com/?p=3953>

Following the Green Paper, Care Matters: Transforming the lives of children and young people in care, published in October 2006 and the White Paper, Care Matters: Time for change, published in June 2007, the Children and Young Persons Act became law in November 2008. The Children, Schools and Families Select Committee published its in-depth report on looked after children, following a one-year investigation into the issue, in April 2009. Delegates at this Westminster Briefing will have the opportunity to consider the impact of recent government policy and legislation on the future for looked after children as well as consider the implications of the 72 recommendations and conclusions in the select committee report.

17th September, London

Life Story Work with Troubled Children and Teenagers

http://www.childmentalhealthcentre.org/pages/events_conf190909.html

Life Story Work offers deep reflective work with a child, to help them develop a coherent and accurate story of their lives and the lives of people closest to them. This is key for their understanding and acceptance of who they are and their past experiences. Life Story Work is also about assimilating past events and the effect that significant people in their lives have had on their self image, self-esteem, sense of self and common self-states. This effective intervention helps children and young people recover from abuse, trauma or neglect and make sense of a disrupted upbringing in multiple homes or families. Through the story work, children and young people often reflect in the most moving and profound ways on what has happened to them and what is happening to them. As a result, they develop a far better sense of who they are, their history, and how they want to live their lives. The intervention involves techniques such as family trees, wallpaper work, and eco- and geno-scaling. It covers the concepts of attachment, loss, magical thinking, identity and meaning.

19 September 2009, London

Secure care for Autism – is it needed?

<http://www.stah.org/events/secure-care-for-autism--is-it-needed.html>

Increasingly, we are recognising that a high number of individuals with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) are entering the Criminal Justice System and being admitted to secure psychiatric units. As these settings and pathways are primarily designed for patients with mental illness, individuals with ASD tend to do poorly in these services, spending longer than necessary in such facilities and struggling to progress through multiple environments with changing personnel. However people with ASD are not a homogenous group. They are very complex and problems vary from person to person. This one day national conference explores why individuals with ASD may need secure services and how such facilities can meet their needs. It asks if autism-specific services are the answer, and if so, how should they be designed and configured? What sort of adaptations and flexibility is required of services and staff?

23 September, Northampton

Child sexual abuse: understanding, listening, responding

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/trainingandconsultancy/Training/TrainingCourses/childsexualabuse_wda65853.html

A two-day training course from Fresh Start , the NSPCC centre for action on child sexual abuse. This training course is for practitioners, volunteer support workers or other professionals working with children and young people to help them know how to respond if a child indicates they are not safe at home. Research shows child sexual abuse incidents are not reducing yet the number of children who report they have been abused is going down. This training questions why this is happening and asks: are we really listening and responding to children who have experienced child sexual abuse or are at risk of being sexually abused?

23-24 September, London

17-18 November, Leicester

Looked After Children Practice Exchange Network

http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_6624ta_261990422573n7q_20095122928m

The aim of the LAC Practice Exchange Network is provide practitioners with up to date knowledge and ideas to help improve practice and outcomes for children in care, which can be disseminated back to individual practitioners local authority. The LAC Practice Exchange

Network events will provide the opportunity for practitioners from across each region to come together to hear about what is happening at a regional level from the Government regional offices and to hear from speakers on topics relevant to direct practice.

29 Sept, Newcastle

CROA Conference – Celebrating 20 years of Children’s Rights (UNCRC)

<http://www.croa.org.uk/node/665>

Workshops on The Children's Legal Centre; Advocacy for Disabled Children & Young People; Total Respect the Full Implementation; Creative Arts - Supporting Young People to express themselves.

30 September – 1 October, Leicester

Promoting safe sexual cultures in education settings

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/CPConferences/SexualBullying_wda64256.html

With the rising problem of sexual bullying in education, this conference is essential for all those working in education settings. Delegates will hear of the impact of sexual bullying on the lives of children and young people and professionals working in the education sector and how positive steps can be taken to address this issue.

2 October, London

Teenagers Locked in Rage and Hate: Prevention and Intervention

http://www.childmentalhealthcentre.org/pages/events_conf031009.html

Research shows that the vast majority of young offenders have suffered from childhood trauma, abuse or neglect, which if untreated, keeps being expressed in one form or another throughout life. These young people are left with a legacy of ‘spoilt life’ because adults have been unable to care for them appropriately. The presenters will offer hope and inspiration coupled with ways of relating, techniques and interventions, to break the all too common cycle of pain to violence.

3 October 2009, London

Colour matters in care: Culture, ethnicity, health and child placement

http://www.baaf.org.uk/res/training/details/091005_conf.shtml

Most looked after children enter care with a wide range of health inequalities and losses, but those from black and minority ethnic backgrounds often face additional difficulties such as discrimination, confusion about identity, and loss of cultural heritage, all of which have a negative impact on their health and well-being. Although there is no such thing as a ‘perfect match’ in adoption or foster care, it is important to understand how ethnicity interacts with health in order to support placements which promote health and well-being. This conference will explore issues for particularly vulnerable groups including those in transracial placements, children adopted from abroad and unaccompanied asylum seeking refugee children, and will also consider the responsibility of health professionals for children in private fostering.

5 Oct 09, London

Looked After Children Practice Exchange Network

http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_6624ta_261990422573n7q_20095122928m

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The LAC Practice Exchange Network events will provide the opportunity for practitioners from across each region to come together to hear about what is happening at a regional level from the Government regional offices and to hear from speakers on topics relevant to direct practice.

7 October, Liverpool

Childhood Epilepsy Conference 2009

http://www.ncype.org.uk/epilepsy/childhood_epilepsy_conference_2009/

The conference will provide many opportunities including: Talks and workshops on topics of interest indicated by parents; Information stands from a variety of organizations; A chance to meet people and share experiences.

17 October

MA Social Pedagogy

http://www.socialpedagogyuk.com/images/pdf/masocialpedagogy_ioe.pdf

http://www.ioe.ac.uk/study/masters/PMM9_CYP9IM.html

This MA will introduce you to the continental European tradition of social pedagogy. Social Pedagogy is best translated as 'education in its broadest sense' and refers to a holistic, goal-oriented and relational approach to working with children, including those in difficult circumstances. It is strongly informed by democratic values and inclusionary goals. At a time when the children's sector in the UK is developing within the framework of Every Child Matters, the MA in Social Pedagogy has much to offer professionals working in this sector. It provides an inter-disciplinary programme of lectures and study and the chance to exchange with Danish students.

The programme is taught in central London at the IOE, on one or two evenings a week in term time and some block attendance is required. The programme is assessed by written assignments, and by a 20,000 word dissertation or a 10,000 word report. The DCSF Social Pedagogy Pilot Programme currently underway in residential children's homes is introducing social pedagogy to many professional groups and enthusiasm for it is growing. A further development is the Institute of Education's new Centre for the Understanding of Social Pedagogy which will foster more research and development. For an information pack and application form please contact: Claire Cameron, Programme Leader, Telephone: 0207 612 6941, Email: c.cameron@ioe.ac.uk

What did I do wrong?

<http://www.whatdididowrong.net/>

This conference is led by a group of young people aged 11 – 17 who have lived with sexual and physical abuse, rejection, domestic violence, neglect and parents with drug and alcohol problems.

9-10 November, Bristol

Teenagers in Distress: Eating Disorders, Self-Harm, Depression and Anxiety Disorders

http://www.childmentalhealthcentre.org/pages/events_conf051209.html

This conference will explore how the turbulence of the teenager years coupled with earlier adverse experiences, can leave adolescents vulnerable to deep unhappiness and the lack of ability to handle their powerful emotions. Statistics show that in the UK over the last three years, there has been a 70 percent rise in anxiety and depressive disorders in young people. On average, a teenager tries to kill himself or herself every 22 minutes. 170,000 under 18's in

the UK are taking anti-depressants. Moreover, British young people are involved in more violence, drug taking and binge drinking than teenagers in any other European country.
5 December 2009, London