



NCERCC Notes – June 2009

1. New on NCERCC website this month

www.ncb.org.uk/ncercc

- [June's Talking Point](#) looks back at the report on residential care that Barbara Kahan OBE wrote ten years ago, and reflects on the progress made since.
- A [Checklist for Assessing Your Organization's Readiness for Reducing Seclusion and Restraint](#)

2. CWDC Share

<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/cwdc-share>

CWDC is inviting bids for funding to help people who work with children, young people and families share their experiences in working together and reforming the workforce in an integrated way. CWDC Share! Gives individual grants of £10,000 to successful sites across England. This year Share! is focusing on the One Children's Workforce Framework and projects should clearly show how they are helping Children's Trusts, local areas or organisations meet one or more of the arcs of the framework.

3. Implementing the Children and Young Persons Act – update from DCSF presentation at recent conference

2008	<i>Royal Assent Nov 2008</i>
2009	<p><i>1st commencement order Feb 2009</i> Social Work Practices, Emergency Protection Orders, Child Death Information, Independent Review Mechanism</p> <p>Currently consulting on Designated Teacher and HE bursary – regulations to come into force September 2009</p> <p><i>2nd commencement order in September 2009</i> Residence and Special Guardianship Orders to be easier for relatives Consultation starts from September on Care Planning guidance, including IROs, Independent Visitor and enforcement of standards in children's homes, plus guidance on sufficiency duty Further wave of consultation from December 2009 on care leavers, visits to children in custody, and disabled children in residential placements.</p>
2010	<p><i>3rd commencement order</i> Following these consultations, regulations to be made between March and June 2010, to be brought into force from Sept 2010.</p>

Children Act 1989 Regulations and guidance

New structure seeks to put the child and the centre and will reflect: an amalgamation of 7 sets of existing regulations to become a single set of care planning and reviewing regulations which will set out the child's journey and articulate how local authorities should fulfil statutory duties set out in the Children and Young Persons Act around the placement decision.

4. Government & Associated

DCSF Children and Youth Board 2009-2011 now recruiting!

The Department for Children, Schools and Families has now begun their search for 25 children and young people aged between 8 to 18 to form the Children and Youth Board 2009-2011. The two year Board will take on the role of advising the Ministers and policy officials on the development of policy and practice that affects children and young people in England. This is a fantastic opportunity for children and young people to gain knowledge of how government and policy works whilst working as part of a team with other children and young people from all walks of life and parts of England. Through their involvement they will learn new skills and experience new things. The experience of being on the Children and Youth Board has proved very enjoyable and fulfilling for children and young people, as a member from the last Board can testify:

"The whole experience was mind blowing, I learnt so much about how the government works, including how Ministers' plans can change any second. Helping with the Children's Plan and seeing the result was great. I hope other young people get a chance to do it too!"
Member of the CYB 2007-2009

The Department wishes to recruit children and young people of all backgrounds across the nine government regions of England. Applicants do not need previous experience of taking part in similar projects, just a lot of enthusiasm and a keen interest in working as part of a team to influence decisions that affect children and young people. The National Children's Bureau has been commissioned to coordinate the Children and Youth Board 2009-2011 so please contact Sarah Chittenden on the details below if you have any questions about the Board and/or would like to request an application pack. The Applications deadline is Monday 29 June, 10am. 0207 843 6103 | schittenden@ncb.org.uk

Improving the educational attainment of children in care: looked-after children

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00523-2009&>

This document outlines the role that schools and local authorities can play in improving the attainment of children in care. It proposes that in every local authority, a senior official, or 'virtual school head' (VSH) should rigorously track the schooling of every child in care. The VSH should also look to ensure continuity of schooling for these children. In schools there should be additional, personalised, individual support for every child in care, through one-to-one tuition and use of the Personal Education Allowance where appropriate. Published 6 May 2009

Day six of exclusion: the extent and quality of provision for pupils

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Thematic-reports/Day-six-of-exclusion-the-extent-and-quality-of-provision-for-pupils>

Under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 schools must provide suitable full-time education, off-site or in partnership with other schools, from day six of a pupil's exclusion.

The Ofsted report, Day Six of Exclusion: The Extent and Quality of Provision for Pupils, revealed that eight of the 28 secondary schools and two of the three special schools visited by Ofsted failed to comply with the duty. The report calls for the government to do more to highlight good practice, while suggesting that local authorities should be better prepared to deal with pupils who have been excluded for more than six days. It also states that Ofsted must incorporate the monitoring and evaluation of provision for permanently excluded pupils into its new inspection of safeguarding in local authorities.

Consultation: Handling allegations of abuse made against adults who work with children and young people

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1639&external=no&menu=1>

The practice guidance is supplementary to the guidance contained in Appendix 5 of Working Together to Safeguard Children and Chapter 5 of Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education. It sets out the statutory framework and underlying principles of handling allegations of abuse for those involved in dealing with allegations. It covers practical issues surrounding exercising professional judgement along with information sharing and record keeping. It also provides a guide through the allegations process through to referral to the Independent Safeguarding Authority.

Closing Date: 7 August 2009

Consultation: 'Promoting the Health of Looked After Children'

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1610&external=no&menu=1>

The Department for Children, Schools and Families has published a consultation on a revised version of 'Promoting the Health of Looked After Children', which was published by the Department of Health in 2002. The revised guidance will be statutory on PCTs and on Strategic Health Authorities as well as local authorities. Deadline for responses is 3 August 2009.

New Ofsted arrangements for the inspection of children's services, including safeguarding and looked after children's services

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/News/New-Ofsted-arrangements-for-the-inspection-of-children-s-services-including-safeguarding-and-looked-after-children-s-services>

Ofsted has published details of how its inspection of children's services will be conducted under the new Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). The frameworks published are the arrangements for the new Ofsted rating for council children's services and the programme of inspection of safeguarding and looked after children, which includes unannounced inspections of child protection services in every local authority in England. Inspections will begin in June.

How Social Workers Spend Their Time

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR087\(R\).pdf](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR087(R).pdf)

Following an analysis of the key issues that impact on practice pre- and post implementation of the Integrated Children's System, the DCSF has published research on how much of their time social workers spend with children and families.

Councils struggling to recruit social workers

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pageId=1868480>

3 in 5 councils are experiencing difficulties in recruiting children's social workers, according to a survey by the Local Government Association. The findings are from a survey of

councillors in charge of children's services, undertaken by the Local Government Association, which represents councils in England. It reveals that three out of five councils are experiencing difficulties in recruiting children's social workers. Two out of five councils are reporting difficulties retaining the staff they have and the same number thinks recruitment of child social workers will get even harder over the next six months.

Care proceeding applications soar after Baby P case

<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/ByDiscipline/Social-Care/904451/Care-proceeding-applications-soar-Baby-P-case/>

The number of applications for care proceedings made by councils has continued to climb in the aftermath of the Baby P scandal in Haringey, according to the latest figures. It should be borne in mind that RCC represents 11-13% of Children in Care and an increase in the sector should be anticipated. Running at 80-85% optimum capacity of the 10K placements registered the sector can respond. Statistics released by the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass) show that in November last year, when details of the Baby P case first came to light, 592 applications were made, 96 more than the previous month and 53 more than during November 2007. Figures rose substantially again in December to 716, when criticism of Haringey Council's handling of the case mounted. This was also 294 up on the same month the previous year. The increase has continued into 2009, with March showing 739 applications, the highest ever recorded for a single month and a 37.9 per cent increase on March 2008's figure.

Local authority's duty to child paramount.

<http://business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/business/law/reports/article6424226.ece>

House of Lords, Regina v Southwark London Borough Council. A local authority's children services unit could not purport to fulfil its duties to look after a homeless child merely by referring him to the homeless persons unit. The House of Lords so held allowing an appeal by claimant, G, from the Court of Appeal which allowed his appeal from the refusal of Mr Justice Simon on November 15 2007, of permission to seek judicial review of the decision of Southwark Borough Council, on his application for accommodation under section 20 of the Children Act 1989, to refer him to the homeless persons unit for accommodation under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996. Lady Hale said the simple human issue in this case mattered because he was a child, and even one on the verge of adulthood was considered and treated by Parliament as a vulnerable person to whom the state owed a duty which went wider than the mere provision of accommodation.

Independent schools to get £10,000 to take vulnerable children

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/independent-boarding-schools-get-16310000-to-take-vulnerable-children-1696422.html>

A White Paper to be published next week, 21st Century Schools, will focus on the attempts by ministers to promote closer collaboration between the state and the private sector. Among the proposals is the plan to offer private boarding schools government grants of up to £10,000 to take in vulnerable children whose parents are on the verge of breaking up. The Schools Minister Sarah McCarthy-Fry said 90 boarding schools had already pledged to offer places to children at risk of being taken into care.

5. Refreshing the Common Core of Skills and Knowledge for the children and young people's workforce

<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/common-core>

CWDC has been tasked by DCSF with carrying out a refresh of the Common Core of Skills and Knowledge for the children and young people's workforce. The review will cover the following key issues:

- a review of content, including in relation to working with parents and carers
- identifying key gaps, and measures to address them
- identifying those parts of the children and young people's workforce that currently make no use of the Common Core and proposing how best to move towards universal usage
- identifying how best to fully embed the Common Core in initial training (such as initial teacher training and the social work degree routes)
- identifying how far the Common Core supports models of joint partnership and Integrated Working across the whole children and young people's workforce
- identifying whether the Common Core could or should incorporate the Children's Workforce Network's Statement of Values for the Children's Workforce

6. The Communication Trust

<http://www.ican.org.uk/Communication%20Trust/>

The purpose of The Communication Trust is to raise awareness of the importance of speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) across the children's workforce and to enable practitioners to access the best training and expertise to support the communication needs of all children. It aims to: raise awareness of speech, language and communication across the entire children's workforce; enable the children's workforce to gain access to the skills and knowledge to support the speech, language and communication development of all children; encourage collaborative working both within and across relevant sectors.

In some parts of the country as many as 40-50% of children have problems with speech, language and communication that could be addressed through a strong universal offer and through language rich environments. There is a separate group of children, around 5-7% of the total population, who have SLCN arising from having a specific language impairment. Other children will have SLCN arising from other impairments e.g. all children with autism, many with cerebral palsy, most with learning disability etc. All of these children would benefit from a strong universal offer around speech, language and communication and all are likely to need targeted interventions to meet their SLCN. There are many areas of excellent practice around supporting the workforce to help children and young people with SLCN.

7. Centre for Excellence Vulnerable Children, Schools and Communities, and Youth themes

<http://www.c4eo.org.uk/news/files/mediareleases/release210509.pdf>

The Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO) is a collaborative centre, which gathers and shares the best knowledge available of 'what works' to contribute to a step-change in outcomes for children and young people, especially those who are most vulnerable. It seeks to do this by identifying, coordinating and communicating 'what works' knowledge about systems and practice that have improved outcomes in services for children and young people. The Centre will share this knowledge with the children's sector and offer tailored support to Local Authorities and their Children's Trust partners, to help them improve outcomes for their priorities, in their local context. It will do this across various themes. The themes that are most relevant to RCC are Vulnerable Children (particularly Children In Care): Schools and Communities: Youth.

Vulnerable Children

The theme lead is Mary Sainsbury, who will work with support from Action for Children (previously NCH) and Making Research Count. This theme will run from February 2009 until October 2010. In November 2009, the first progress map will be published and regional knowledge workshops will be held. The three priorities are:

- Improving the educational outcomes of looked after children and young people.
- Improving the emotional and behavioural health of looked after children and young people.
- Increasing the number of care leavers in 'settled, safe accommodation' – Increasing the numbers of care leavers in settled, safe accommodation is a key priority for government and is reflected in its public service agreements (PSA).

Schools and Communities

There will be the shared leadership of Sheila Stoney, Strategic Adviser at the National Foundation for Education Research as theme lead, and Neil Wilson, Executive Headteacher of Newall Green High School, Manchester, will chair the Schools and Communities Theme Advisory Group.

The three priorities are

- Narrowing the gap in educational achievement and improving emotional resilience (social skills and self-esteem) for children and young people with additional needs.
- All children and young people making sustained progress and remaining fully engaged through all transitions between key stages and services, 11-19 years (25 for care leavers).
- Strengthening family well-being and community cohesion through the role of schools and extended services.

Youth

The theme lead is Rod Norton, Head of Development Programmes at the National Youth Agency (NYA). The theme will run from September 2009 to March 2011, and the three priorities are:

- Increasing the engagement of young people in positive activities so as to achieve the ECM outcomes (and contribute to the achievement of Youth PSA 14)
- Delivering better outcomes for young people by increasing the impact of targeted youth support and development
- Children and young people make healthy lifestyle choices by reducing their alcohol consumption and so improve their health, safety and well-being

8. Research in Practice Update

http://www.rip.org.uk/rpu/rpu.asp?type_id=1

Research in Practice has published the May edition of research and policy update. It looks at the costs and consequences of placing children in care: enhancing adoptive parenting; and children, families and violence.

9. Atkinson Secure Unit

Devon County Council has now agreed to maintain the Atkinson Secure Unit in Exeter the city until March next year. Its future will be reviewed again next year. The unit will operate 8 of its 11 beds for a mixture of court and welfare cases from within the county and other councils.

10. Guardian Public Services Awards

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/publicservicesawards>

The Guardian has launched its Public Service Awards 2009 and in a time when everyone is feeling the pinch it is a great opportunity to recognise excellence among organisations commissioning or providing services. The Service Delivery category includes a 'Children and young people' category. The closing date for entries is 17 July.

11. Forgotten Children season

www.channel4.com/forgotten

http://www.channel4.com/services/videoplayer/popup.jsp?name=FTC_debate

Channel 4's Britain's Forgotten Children season has a website with over 100,000 page views so far which features clips from the public debate 'Failure to Care?'

12. Recruitment

<http://www.skillsactive.com/resources/news/lies-on-cvs-increase-as-the-job-market-worsens>

http://www.ncb.org.uk/ncercc/ncercc%20practice%20documents/ncercc_recruitmenttoolkit.pdf

A survey by SkillsActive of 2000 adults found 18% admit to lying in CVs and this rises to 36% when looking for work. Salary was deemed the second most acceptable thing to lie about on a CV after hobbies and pastimes, followed by secondary education qualifications (GCSEs and O Levels). Fibbing about having a driving licence, however, was seen as worse than being untruthful about previous criminal convictions. The results of this research show that, when it comes to recruitment, employers need to be more careful than ever to double check information supplied and contact references.

The NCERCC recruitment practice documents have received very positive evaluation by the sector and will assist you overcome these obstacles with CV's and many more

13. Resources

Safe: personal safety skills for deaf children

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/publications/safe_wda58697.html

Safe helps to strengthen the self-confidence and self-esteem of deaf children, enabling them to seek help and advice when they need it.

Incredibly Caring: a training resource pack on fabricated or induced illness for use in multi-agency training

The Incredibly Caring training resource was commissioned by DCSF to support the use of the statutory guidance Safeguarding Children in whom Illness is fabricated or induced (HM Government, 2008). The pack has been designed to assist: practitioners working with children and their families, including health and education professionals, police officers and social workers; members of the children's workforce and adult services who come into contact with children and families either in the statutory or third sectors; middle and senior managers within these areas wishing to understand their responsibilities regarding fabricated or induced illness.

This pack (in the form of a DVD) has been commissioned to assist both practitioners and managers promote the best outcomes for children where fabricated or induced illness is suspected, work sensitively with parents and carers in the child's best interests and better exercise their professional judgement. Copies of the DVD and the statutory guidance can be obtained by contacting: DCSF Publications, dcsf@prolog.uk.com Tel. 0845 6022260

Quote: 'Incredibly Caring and 00277-2008DOM-EN'

Common Induction - CWN Vision and Principles for Induction

<http://www.childrensworkforce.org.uk/induction>

The Children's Workforce Network has produced the *CWN Vision and Principles for Induction to the Children and Young People's Workforce*, which are the first step toward a common understanding and direction on induction for the children and young people's workforce, a timely, agreed and planned induction programme in line with the Common Core of Skills and Knowledge for the Children's Workforce.

The CWN Vision and Principles for Induction are now available in a handy booklet and an interactive tool – the induction 'wheel' – which can be used as a reminder of key points of what good practice in induction should look like. They are both useful for any organisation who is looking to develop or review their existing induction programmes and for staff who want to know what they can expect from good induction.

CWN - Functional Map of the Children and Young People's Workforce in England

http://www.childrensworkforce.org.uk/assets/0000/0365/Functional_map.pdf

The map is a visual representation of the core activities undertaken by the workforce, covering all sectors. It provides an understanding of what qualifications the sector needs for career choices, progression and mobility. The map shows the activities that are carried out by people when they work with children and young people. This involves everyone who works with children and young people, part or all of the time; whether employed, self-employed or in a voluntary capacity. The map can be used in a variety of ways to support training and development, including the development of National Occupational Standards (NOS), professional and other standards and qualifications. It has been developed by the Children's Workforce Network (CWN) in consultation with people who work across the whole of the children and young people's workforce in England.

Disabled Children Living Away From Home in Foster Care and Residential Settings

<http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1898683581.html>

Disabled children who are unable to live at home are doubly needy: in addition to their disability, they are deprived of normal family life. Children who do not grow up in a stable, nurturing environment are unlikely to achieve their potential. Moreover, disabled children often have complex medical problems. Disabled children living away from home are often involved with many different professionals: although individually these professionals may provide appropriate support, the sum of their efforts rarely adds up to the actions of a 'good' parent. The book considers the key issues that must be addressed when disabled children move from the family home to new accommodation. It provides insights into the difficulties that these children face and looks at how the standards of care that they receive might be improved. It also makes suggestions about how professionals might work more effectively with each other and with the children's care-givers.

Loudspeaker

http://www.ncb.org.uk/youngncb/loudspeaker%20pdf/loudspeaker20_yncb_2009.pdf

The latest copy of Loudspeaker is now uploaded onto the YoungNCB website.

Preparing for the Future

<http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/content.aspx?CategoryID=179>

Action for Children's latest briefing looks at the support needs of children and young people who have been sexually abused. *Preparing for the future* provides an outline of Action for Children's services to support and treat children, young people and their families who have been affected by sexual abuse. Child sexual abuse manifests itself into a variety of behavioural and psychological problems. Action for Children offer vulnerable and traumatised children valuable therapeutic services. Services are currently the subject of an external evaluation by Canterbury Christ Church University. The results of this research will help develop understanding of the effectiveness of interventions with survivors of child sexual abuse.

14. Conferences/Training – in date order

'Enabling Children to Speak About Feelings Through the Arts' Series

http://www.childmentalhealthcentre.org/pages/events_training2.html

By and large, these training days will be structured with case material in the morning, demonstrating how children and adolescents have been enabled to speak about their feelings through a particular art form. In the afternoon there will be time to experience for yourself the communicative power of the art form. You will take away a host of safe tools and techniques.

Disability Knowledge Workshops

The Centre for Excellence and Outcomes (C4EO) is running a series of exciting and timely Disability Knowledge Workshops in June and July, and places are still available in some regions. Delegates should have lead responsibility for the commissioning and/or delivery of services for children with disabilities. They are likely to be senior managers from the Local Authority or drawn from one of your Children's Trust partners. Email c4eobookings@rip.org.uk to enquire whether places are still available for your region. Director's of Children's services have been asked to nominate 2 people, and PCT chief executives have been asked to nominate one other. If you would like to attend your regional event, contact your DCS or PCT chief executive requesting to be nominated, or contact the bookings team for advice.

Emotional Intelligence in Schools: Making It A Reality

http://www.childmentalhealthcentre.org/pages/events_conf6jun09.html

This conference brings together leading names in the field of emotional intelligence in schools. They will focus on the psychological, interpersonal, developmental and neurobiological factors that contribute to an emotionally healthy school environment. They will explore practical ways in which schools can become more emotionally literate, warmer and kinder places. Key concepts of well-being, mental health, social and emotional intelligence related to educational aims will be addressed. There will be full discussion as to what competencies we are trying to develop; what emotional experiences do we want children to have at school; what barriers to learning can a school address; what should be addressed and how can it be done.

6 June 2009, London

A Living Learning Experience – An Introduction to Therapeutic Child Care

<http://www.mulberrybush.org.uk/uploads/PETT%20June%202009%20workshop.pdf>

This Residential Workshop aims to introduce the principles of therapeutic childcare practice. Through understanding disordered attachment and early childhood damage, workers will begin to make sense of distressed behaviour in children and to learn to make use of their own feeling responses as a tool for treatment and nurturing care. The working method of the

workshop will reflect daily practice in therapeutic communities by using a psychodynamic and group-analytic approach for understanding behaviour. It will offer a programme of practice discussions and reflective workshops as well as facilitated self-experience reflective groups. In all these sessions participants will have the opportunity to make connections between their personal life experiences, their practice experience and theoretical learning.
11 – 13 June 2009, Toddington

Hull Centre for Restorative Practices - A Restorative Practices Conference

The Hull Centre for Restorative Practices is delighted to invite all colleagues working with children, young people and families to attend this multi-disciplinary conference. Delegates will learn about successful restorative practice strategies that build and strengthen communities, participate in multi-disciplinary workshops led by leading practitioners and network with colleagues. Attendance costs £115 per delegate. For more information email HCRPadmin@goodwin-centre.org
15th June 2009, Hull

7th Annual Child Protection Conference

<http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/kd175/>

This 7th annual national conference will bring together representatives from local and central government, LCSBs, police, education and child protection organisations to offer a unique opportunity to hear from experts in the field and discuss how to protect and safeguard children while providing a safe and normal childhood.

18 June, London

From the Pain of Insecure Attachment, Separation and Loss to Effective Intervention

http://www.childmentalhealthcentre.org/pages/events_conf200609.html

Attachment has had an enormous impact in the fields of child development, social work, psychology, and psychiatry, and rightly so. Attachment research can help us profoundly in our understanding of self, society and its problems. In light of this, we are delighted to be able to offer this conference, where two of the world's leading attachment authors and clinicians will present. They will explore insecure attachment in particular, showing how it can lead to common human unhappiness as well as all manner of mental un-wellness e.g. disturbances of personal identity, loneliness, obsessionality, depression, anxiety disorders, agoraphobia and suicide. They will then present the principles of attachment-informed interventions offering examples of how these work in practice, illustrating with fascinating and moving case material and film footage. Finally, the presenters will also consider the other side of attachment namely the profound effect of loss and separation in life and therapy, and effective intervention.

20 June 2009, London

Childhood Epilepsy Study Day for Educational Psychologists

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

Study Day at the National Centre for Young People with Epilepsy (NCYPE). This day is aimed at Educational Psychologists working with children and young people who want to learn more about epilepsy. During the day the following topics will be delivered either as a talk or within a workshop. We aim to make as many of our sessions as interactive as possible by including a variety of activities and plenty of opportunities for discussion and sharing good practice: What you need to know about epilepsy – the basics; Epilepsy in Education;

Psychosocial and behavioural aspects of epilepsy; Out of the mouths of students; Epilepsy and communication.

23 June, NCYPE, Surrey

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.

25 June, Bristol

Training the Trainer: Running Fatherhood Programmes with Boys and Young Men

<http://www.ukyouth.org/Resources/UK%20Youth/Running%20Fatherhood%20Programmes%20with%20Boys%20and%20Young%20Men%2025%20june%202009.pdf>

This training course provides trainers, volunteers and young people who may be acting as leaders or peer educators; guidance for running sessions and activities aimed at exploring issues around fatherhood, maleness and masculinity. Using the accompanying manual, that and the course is designed to provide trainers with all the material they need to deliver a two-day training course and explore issues including personal experiences; feelings; values and attitudes; responsibility towards yourself and others; communicating and relating and sexuality and sexual health.

25th June 2009, London

Feeling good whilst aiming high: positive outcomes for disabled children

<http://www.icwhatsnew.com/bulletin/0906/05.htm>

This national conference is organised by NNATPIP for all those supporting with children and young people with physical disabilities. NNATPIP is the professional organisation which represents specialist teachers involved in the education of children and young people with physical impairment.

25th June, Solihull

Minding the Gap: Recruitment and Retention in Children's Services

<http://publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/events/9F30-PPE.php>

This special one-day conference, hosted by the *Centre for Parliamentary Studies*, offers a timely opportunity to assess the latest workforce reform measures and discuss their practical contribution to tackling deep-rooted recruitment and retention problems in children's services. The conference will also consider what further measures still need to be implemented to build a robust framework with a workforce equipped to deliver the radical changes needed to improve the lives of all children and young people who need support and protection.

Delegates will have the opportunity to debate, share best practice and network with colleagues from across the children's services, local authority and government landscape.

30th June 2009, London

Talking about sexual health and relationships with looked after children

<http://www.fpa.org.uk/Training/CoursesinEnglandScotlandandWales/Talkingaboutsexualhealthlooked-afteryoungpeople>

This course is aimed at anyone who works with and/or cares for children and young people in care. It is an opportunity to reflect on practical ways of working with children and young people to address their rights, relationship needs and sexual health questions. Young people who are looked after are more vulnerable to unintended pregnancy, poorer sexual health outcomes and exploitative and/or abusive relationships than their non-looked after peers. The aim is to increase the skills, knowledge and awareness that staff and carers need to talk to looked after children and young people about sexual health, rights and relationships.
30 June 2009, London

Childhood Epilepsy Study Day for Secondary School Staff

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

This day is aimed at mainstream secondary school teachers and support staff and will be particularly suitable for any professional, particularly SENCOs, who want to learn more about childhood epilepsy and its impact on learning. During the day the following topics will be addressed: Epilepsy Basics; How epilepsy affects learning; Epilepsy and communication; Techniques for helping students with epilepsy; Psychological impact of living with epilepsy; Managing behaviour; Social issues associated with epilepsy;
3 July, NCYPE, Surrey

Families, History and Learning Difficulties

http://www.open.ac.uk/hsc/lds/site/pdfs/SHLD_Conf_2009_Two-day_Programme.pdf

For information and a booking form, email shld-conference@open.ac.uk
9th & 10th July 2009, The Open University, Milton Keynes

New Initiatives and Techniques for Work with Troubled Children and Young People

http://www.childmentalhealthcentre.org/pages/events_conf110709.html

This day offers a rich sampling of some of the most innovative and cutting edge interventions and ways of working with troubled children and young people. The event promises to be a vital resource for those people who have any role in the emotional well-being of children, in PSHE or SEAL in schools, in counselling or other settings.
11 July 2009, London

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

Disabled Living Foundation Training - Handling Children in the School Environment

<http://www.icwhatsnew.com/bulletin/0906/08.htm>

This one day course by Disabled Living Foundation (DLF) is structured for teachers, teaching assistants and others who may be involved with handling children with special needs at school. The day will cover all aspects of risk assessment, body movement, risk factors and problem-solving in practical situations

13th July 2009, 12th August 2009, London

Childhood Epilepsy Study Day for Nurses

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

This day is aimed at nurses working with children and young people who want to learn more about epilepsy. It will be especially suitable for school nurses and nurses working in paediatric, community and learning disability teams. It may also be of interest to practice nurses and CAMHS practitioners. During the day the following topics will be delivered either as a talk or within a workshop: Epilepsy basics; Seizure classification; Status Epilepticus and emergency treatment protocols; Misdiagnosis and Non Epileptic Attack Disorder (NEAD); Psychological implications of epilepsy and psychiatric co-morbidities; Social impact of epilepsy and risk assessments; Devising emergency protocols; Effect of epilepsy on cognition and behaviour; Transition/moving on.

13 July 2009, NCYPE, Surrey

C4EO's National Safeguarding and Child Protection Conferences

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

C4EO is holding four national conferences 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 events are:

14th July - South East & Eastern

15th July - London

21st July - South West, East Midlands and West Midlands

23rd July - Yorkshire & the Humber, North East, and North West

The conferences support the aim of the National Safeguarding Delivery Unit to create a shared evidence base of effective practice. For more information contact the C4EO Events Team on 01803 849999 or email the team at C4EObookings@rip.org.uk

Siblings Together Camp

www.siblingsaltogether.co.uk

Siblings Together have developed a siblings camps holiday; established specifically for young people in Care who currently are unable to have the type of contact they would very much like, and need to have. When children are unable, for whatever reason to live together, they often need to continue to build upon important childhood experiences together, to get to know one another in a neutral, accepting, active, creative environment. Highly trained staff teams and police checked volunteers from Arts & Health, Social Work, Psychology, Therapy training, educational establishment from across the UK, will encourage and fully support young people towards building upon important relationships, whilst having a holiday experience together. The current cost is £300 for each child/Young person, depending upon our funding, this could potentially be less.

Next camps: 26th July -1st August & October Half Term

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

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

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

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

Looked After Children Practice Exchange Network

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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

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

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