

2025 **WORKSHOP & EVENTS BROCHURE**







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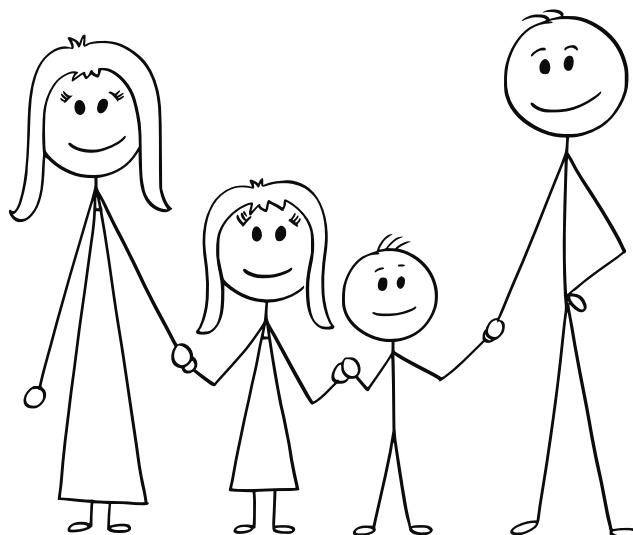
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About us



ASSOCIATION FOR FOSTERING, KINSHIP AND ADOPTION

AFKA Cymru promotes good practice across the breadth of permanency planning for children and young people. We are all about learning and development and offer advice, training and consultancy to professionals and members of the public to support best practice.

We are pleased to be offering a wide range of titles for learning and development throughout 2025.

Our workshops will be delivered as live webinars in English. Each course can also be booked as a private commission or adapted to suit your service need.

We also offer bespoke training and consultancy individual to the needs of your team or organisation.

For more information or to book your place, visit www.afkacymru.org.uk or email: info@afkacymru.org.uk

**“TODAY’S KNOWLEDGE SUPPORTING
TOMORROW’S FAMILIES”.**



Commissioned Training



Resource Hub



Conference

AFKA CYMRU

Kinship



10th June 2025

Event Details:

Location: Cardiff

Time: 11am-3:30pm

Price: £132+VAT (members)
£168+VAT (non members)

A day to meet with your peers across Wales to discuss developments in kinship care.

Join us at the 2025 conference where you will have the opportunity to connect with other likeminded people, hear from inspiring speakers and participate in round table discussions.

Conference agenda and more information on themes and presentations to follow.



BOOK NOW





Webinar

AFKA CYMRU

NAS - Contact & Working with Birth Parents



28th January 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-3pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: FREE

Non-member price: FREE

Trainers: Helen Hawksworth & Sarah Coldrick

This event is part of the ongoing dissemination and implementation of the NAS Good Practice Guides, and will examine the key principles of the Contact and Birth Parent Guides and implications for practice.

We will consider the recent Public Law Working Group report and recommendations, and think about the different legal stages of contact.

Practitioners will share experience of using the Contact Planning tool and risk assessments for contact, and of working with families to support everyone involved to maintain relationships that help a child understand their identity as an adopted person.

Audience

Children's social workers and managers, Adoption and Fostering social workers, Contact workers, CAFCASS, Panel members, IROs, Life Journey work practitioners, Reflect practitioners



Feedback

"Very informative. Room for discussion and questions. Very knowledgeable trainer".

"The trainer was very engaging and ensured everyone remained engaged throughout the session".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Preparation to Kinship Foster Care / Special Guardian



**22nd & 23rd January
2025 (2-day course)**

Details:

Time: 10am-1pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: FREE

Non-member price: FREE

Trainer: Amy Shepherd

This workshop is designed to equip your carers with the knowledge and understanding necessary to participate fully in decision-making. This course addresses the rewards, complexities, and demands of kinship foster care and special guardianship. It supports carers in their journey of developing skills to enable them to provide the best possible care to children.

Audience

Kinship or connected individuals currently in the pre-assessment, assessment, or recently approved stage of becoming kinship foster carers or special guardians.



Feedback

"Got more information from this course than we did through over 6 years of fostering"

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Family Time/Contact for Special Guardians



28th January 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: FREE

Non-member price: FREE

Trainer: Natalia Osborne

In this training, which is funded by Welsh Government, we will look specifically at Family Time/Contact for children who are cared for under a Special Guardianship Order.

This workshop is specifically designed to empower Special Guardians by providing them with insights into the complexities of planning and managing family time with birth families. It aims to equip caregivers with the knowledge, best practice, and the latest research, enabling them to confidently fulfil their role and responsibilities in this process. The training will offer valuable perspectives on the emotional and practical aspects of family time, children's rights, and will guide Special Guardians in effectively promoting and enhancing the meaningfulness of family time.

Audience

Special Guardians



Feedback

"Good sharing of experiences, utilising assessments, good advice on tips/strategies for child".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Supervising Social Worker - Supporting Foster Carers with Caring for Children with Complex Needs



13th February 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Tracy Bowen

This workshop has been developed to support the knowledge and skills required by the Supervising Social Worker. It provides a comprehensive overview that can equip social workers with the techniques needed to support foster carers caring for children with complex needs.

Learning Objectives:

- Models of therapeutic care including PACE, Secure Base and Mentalisation
- Therapeutic Care and the Supervising Social Workers role in supporting this.
- Solution focused approaches
- Supporting Foster Carers with the management of behavioural issues.
- Learning lessons from Child Practice Reviews.

Audience

Supervising Social Workers



Feedback

"Tracy delivered the training at an appropriate rate; she explained things very well and brought interesting case scenarios."

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Transitions from residential care into a foster home (social work practitioners)



18th February 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: FREE

Non-member price: FREE

Trainer: Martina Wolter

In this workshop we will look at the challenges, benefits and worries around a child's transition from a residential placement into foster care. The aim is to help staff understand the children better in order to support them as best as possible, to make the transition as smooth as possible for all involved and to help the foster families create a therapeutic, sustainable placement.

Audience

Child Care Social Workers, Supervising Social Workers, Team Managers, Residential Workers



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Feedback

"Today highlighted the significance of looking at the child's inner world and how this impacts upon decision making / identifying future placements moving away from focusing upon behaviours exhibited and factual information. This will not only be relevant to step down placements but also to placement moves in a general sense. The Circle of Understanding Model will be good tool to use in future."





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Life Journey Work for Special Guardians



18th February 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: FREE

Non-member price: FREE

Trainer: Hannah Brown

In this training, which is funded by Welsh Government, we will look specifically at Life Journey Work for children who are cared for under a Special Guardianship Order.

Life Journey Work has the potential to improve children and young people's self-esteem, promote healthy relationships and support recovery from trauma. This interactive course will consider the benefits and challenges of supporting children to better understand their story and will include action planning.

Audience

Special Guardians



Feedback

"Hannah is an excellent trainer and brought positivity to the learning experience".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Supporting Families Caring for Teenagers



3rd March 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £86

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Natalia Osborne

In the past decade, there has been a notable increase in teenagers entering Wales's care system. According to Family Justice Data Partnership, Adolescents aged 14-15 are the most likely to enter care - making up the largest proportion of new entrants each year. When matching to foster carers, teenagers are often overlooked in favour of younger children due to the misconception that caring for them is more challenging. Many of our most traumatised and vulnerable young people miss out on the opportunity of essential family support during a critical time in their lives. This workshop strongly emphasises the benefits of caring for teenagers, dispelling myths and offers effective solutions for families to provide the necessary care for adolescents.

Audience

Fostering Social Workers,
Children's Social Workers, IROs,
Children's Social Care Managers



Feedback

"AFKA Cymru gives positive opportunity to openly discuss experience and gain advice and direction".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Transitions – from residential care into a foster home (foster carers)



11th March 2025

Details:

Time: 9:15am-3pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: FREE

Non-member price: FREE

Trainer: Martina Wolter

In this workshop we will look at the challenges, benefits and worries around a child's transition from a residential placement into foster care. The aim is to empower foster carers to consider step-down placements, to help foster carers understand the children better in order to support them as best as possible, to make the transition as smooth as possible for all involved and to help the foster families create a therapeutic, sustainable placement.

Audience

Foster carers



Feedback

"I have undertaken a lot of training courses since I applied to become a Foster Carer but today's training has given me an abundance of new understanding which I will take forward."

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

DDP Level 1



11th, 12th, 20th &
21st March 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-4:30pm

Location: Cardiff

**Member price &
Non-member price:** £830+VAT

Trainer: Alison Keith

This is an introductory **4-day training** on Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy, an intervention model for families with a child who has trauma-attachment problems, developed by Dan Hughes, Clinical Psychologist, USA. In this training, theory and research in the areas of developmental trauma, child development and attachment theory are integrated to produce a therapeutic approach and parenting model used for relationship development and trauma resolution. DDP recognises the vital role which adoptive parents and foster carers play as primary attachment figures in the recovery of traumatised, attachment-resistant children.

Upcoming Dates - 7th, 8th, 16th, 17th October 2025

Audience

Therapists and practitioners who have experience in working with children and young people with trauma-attachment problems and their foster, adoptive or birth families. Adoptive Parents & Foster Carers are welcome to attend with the understanding that the training focuses on how to provide services to children and their families.

Feedback

"Excellent trainer with some real examples of her practice. Very relatable, and she was able to make it relevant for people on all levels and in different roles in attendance".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Improving Placement Stability for Children Looked After in Foster Placements



13th March 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Tracy Bowen

This course is designed to bring the AFKA Cymru Good Practice Guide to life. Practitioners will have the opportunity to discuss, reflect and learn from the guide and their peers which ensures that the good practice recommendations are afforded the opportunity to be embedded in practice. Practitioners will gain the tools and techniques required to support and build placement stability for vulnerable children and their foster carers.

Audience

Supervising Social Workers, Child Care Social Workers, Independent Reviewing Officers, Support Workers, Team Managers, all practitioners working with children in foster placements.

BOOK NOW

Feedback

"This is an exceptional training for social workers working with children and foster carers. I learnt such a lot and so much to reflect on and to put into practice. I really valued the suggestions to use wellness action plans for foster carers and the models that were suggested for use."





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Life Journey Work for Special Guardians



18th March 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: FREE

Non-member price: FREE

Trainer: Hannah Brown

In this training, which is funded by Welsh Government, we will look specifically at Life Journey Work for children who are cared for under a Special Guardianship Order.

Life Journey Work has the potential to improve children and young people's self-esteem, promote healthy relationships and support recovery from trauma. This interactive course will consider the benefits and challenges of supporting children to better understand their story and will include action planning.

Audience

Special Guardians



Feedback

"Hannah created a very relaxed atmosphere for all to share and contribute. Thank you.".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Family Time/Contact for Special Guardians



24th March 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: FREE

Non-member price: FREE

Trainer: Natalia Osborne

In this training, which is funded by Welsh Government, we will look specifically at Family Time/Contact for children who are cared for under a Special Guardianship Order.

This workshop is specifically designed to empower Special Guardians by providing them with insights into the complexities of planning and managing family time with birth families. It aims to equip caregivers with the knowledge, best practice, and the latest research, enabling them to confidently fulfil their role and responsibilities in this process. The training will offer valuable perspectives on the emotional and practical aspects of family time, children's rights, and will guide Special Guardians in effectively promoting and enhancing the meaningfulness of family time.

Audience

Special Guardians



Feedback

"Training was excellent, I have taken a lot away from it and feel much better prepared".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Blocked Trust / Blocked Care



25th March 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am - 3:30pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Martina Wolter

This workshop will consider what blocked trust is, how it develops, how it shows and why is it so important to care for foster carers in order to help the child. Participants will be looking at early trauma, insecure attachment, inner working model and perception of correction for insecure/mistrusting children. The course will support participants to identify foster carers' own triggers and how to support themselves and others to get out of blocked care. There will also be exploration around when interventions don't work and the child has to move on.

Audience

Adoption, Fostering & SGO Social Workers, Children's Social Workers & Social Care Managers, IROs, Independent Social workers, Foster Carers.



Feedback

"Really informative course, and made me really think about my practice and how I can support foster carers in the future".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Making Good Assessments – Fostering



**1st, 2nd & 3rd April
2025 (3-day course)**

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £176

Non-member price: £212

Trainer: Amy Shepherd

This workshop will cover all aspects relating to the assessment of foster carers including legislative framework, two stage process, planning for a 4-6 month timescale, assessment tools and techniques. Attendees will be supported to develop skills in assessment, evidence-based practice, critical analysis and how to present information to foster panel with a focus on promoting best practice in the recruitment and assessment of prospective foster families. Whether you are new to fostering or experienced this will be an opportunity to reflect on your practice, consider the complexities of the breadth of tasks involved in every assessment and a space to explore ideas.

Audience

Fostering Social Workers



Feedback

"I have been doing fostering assessments for 18 years, this course was great, it covered topics I've not discussed in training before and had to muddle through over the years".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Period Preparation: Supporting Children with the Transition into Puberty



8th April 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Hannah Brown

A newly developed workshop for foster carers, adopters and special guardians to support children to prepare for periods and navigate the transition into puberty.

Audience

Foster Carers, Kinship Carers, Adopters and Special Guardians of children who will menstruate.



Feedback

"Great blend of discussion and learning from others as well as detail of the menstrual cycle. The trainer was fantastic and made the experience very comfortable - which given the topic is quite a skill."

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Exploring bias, discrimination and becoming a culturally competent practitioner



8th April 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-3:30pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Natalia Osborne

Cultural competence involves acknowledging and respecting cultural differences in our attitudes, communication, and behaviours. As childcare professionals, regardless of our specific roles, we must continually strive to enhance our cultural competence in practice. To do this effectively, we need to examine our personal biases and understand the impact that discrimination can have on the children and communities we support. In this open course, you will have the opportunity to explore key concepts related to cultural competence and anti-oppressive practice, and then apply this knowledge to your work. The course will also include a discussion on how both personal and professional identities can influence the decisions we make in our roles.

Audience

Practitioners and social workers, regardless of their role.



Feedback

"It was really thought provoking and really supported us to revisit past experiences".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Fostering and Adoption Panels (Wales) - An introduction to their functions and responsibilities



10th April 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Tracy Bowen

This course aims to give aspiring, new and recently appointed fostering and adoption panel members an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the tasks, roles and responsibilities involved and as a result develop confidence in their role as an effective panel member.

Fostering and Adoption panel work is challenging to all concerned in the process and this course is intended to share experiences, dilemmas and best practice. Learning will be set within the context of the current legislative framework, best practice guidance and emerging research.

Audience

Aspiring, new and recently appointed fostering and adoption panel members.



Feedback

"The training was a mixture of factual information and Tracy's own experiences and had opportunities for group discussions."

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Learning from Child Practice Reviews



29th April 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-1pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Tracy Bowen

A workshop for social workers from across the Permanency sector to come together to look at learning from Serious Case Review (Child Practice Reviews) in adoption, fostering and Special Guardianship Order placements. Looking at how this learning can impact on your work and where changes can be made to improve practice.

Audience

Adoption, Fostering, SGO Social Workers and Child Care Social Worker



Feedback

"I was able to develop my knowledge of child practice reviews and the challenges that may arise. Also, I was able to discuss challenges and solutions with other professionals within the local authority".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Understanding Special Guardianship Orders



7th May 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Amy Shepherd

This workshop will explore special guardianship assessment and the application of critical analysis to this work; relevant case law and learning from serious case reviews, the 'Offer' of Special Guardianship support and developing support and contact plans within an outcomes focused framework. This work will be rooted in an understanding of the history, context and use of Special Guardianships Orders, including application of The Special Guardianship (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018, with its accompanying Code of Practice and The PLWG's publication 'Recommendations to achieve best practice ... Special Guardianship Orders' 2020.

Audience

Social work practitioners



Feedback

"Presentation was excellent, very good information and discussions. Excellent training and I will take a lot away from this".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Preparation Training for Parent and Child Foster Carers



Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Non-member/Member price:
£295+VAT per household

Trainer: Tracy Bowen

Fostering Services are under increasing pressure to provide parent and child fostering placements in order to provide the best possible chance to keep families together and avoid children, particularly babies from coming into care. They occur where parents have additional support needs that cannot be met in the community and where there may be significant concern about a parents ability to safely care for their child. Parent and Child placements can be hugely rewarding for foster carers particularly where carers support families to remain together in the community. However these arrangements can be complex and challenging and foster carers require additional training over and above that provided to mainstream foster carers to meet the specific demands of these placements. This 2-day training course will provide foster carers and fostering service professionals with a comprehensive introduction to the role of the parent and child foster carer, the tasks involved, and the skills and knowledge required to support this role.

Audience

Foster carers who are currently approved as parent and child carers, are new to the role or interested in exploring this option.

BOOK NOW

Feedback

"Very knowledgeable trainer. Good interaction with other training participants".





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Making Good Assessments – Kinship / Connected Persons



13th, 14th & 15th
May 2025 (3-days)

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £176

Non-member price: £212

Trainer: Amy Shepherd

This 12-hour workshop split over 3 short days will cover all aspects relating to the assessment of Connected Persons to provide care and permanency for children looked after. The training will cover understanding the legislative framework, guidance around specific case law and implications for practice/recommendations; requirements in terms of the assessment process; assessment tools and techniques; guidance in writing/timescales; analysis within the assessment; contact and support plans. This will be an opportunity to reflect on your practice, consider the complexities of the breadth of tasks involved in every assessment and a space to explore ideas.

Audience

Social Workers working with the assessment of Connected Persons



Feedback

“Really good training with a focus on clarification of the assessment process and all the grey areas. Good to look at best practice and legal framework. I really enjoyed the course”.

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Staying Connected Through Trauma: Nervous System Regulation



20th May 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainers: Hannah Brown & Amy Shepherd

This workshop will look at the function of the nervous system and focus on the impact of trauma on nervous system function. Attendees will delve into an exploration of polyvagal theory which explores how the state of our nervous system determines how safe and connected we feel in day-to-day life. Some states lead to disconnection, withdrawal and self protection, while others promote social engagement, exploration, and curiosity. Trainers will discuss strategies to befriend and tend to the nervous system for better outcomes.

Audience

Social workers, managers, IROs, foster carers, adopters



Feedback

"First online zoom course where we all felt connected".

"I enjoyed looking at techniques to relax the nervous system and control our responses when others are struggling with their regulation".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Assessing Adult Relationships



21st May 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Natalia Osborne

This course aims to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of best practices in the assessment of adult relationships. Participants will engage in an exploration of their own values and assumptions regarding relationships, encouraging self-reflection and awareness. This workshop will delve into the critical importance of various factors that influence adult relationships, including attachment styles and their impact on emotional connections. We will examine the role of motivation in relationship dynamics, as well as discussions surrounding sex and sexuality, recognising the complexities and diverse experiences that shape these aspects of relationships. The course will address challenging topics such as loss and infertility, emphasising the emotional and psychological impacts they can have on individuals and couples. By the end of the course, participants will have a richer understanding of the multifaceted nature of adult relationships and the skills necessary to assess and support them effectively.

Audience

Social work teams and professionals in the permanency sector involved in assessing potential adoptive parents, foster carers, special guardians, and kinship carers.

BOOK NOW

Feedback

“very engaging trainer”.





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Panel Chair/Vice Chair- Fostering



22nd May 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Tracy Bowen

A workshop for experienced or new Fostering Panel Chairs/Vice Chairs. An opportunity to consider the regulations, guidance and this specific role and how it connects with the agency. Throughout the day there will be times to share and hear good practice from other practitioners/agencies. On this course we will explore your role within panel and what panel's role is in relation to assessments, how panels work as a team to make robust, child centred decisions. The need for panels to ensure diversity representation and thought.

Audience

Fostering Panel Chairs and Vice Chairs.



Feedback

"Sharing practice with other Panels will be useful in developing our own practice".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Mastering Critical Thinking and Analysis in Fostering Assessments



4th June 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-3pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Amy Shepherd

In this course you will explore how to apply critical thinking to fostering assessments enabling you to achieve or enhance your work in writing or reviewing fostering assessments to ensure they are evidence informed and robustly analytical.

The course will enable you to apply practice models including Secure Base, alongside practice guidance, including competencies, to inspire confidence in making sound recommendations about capacity and suitability.

Audience

Practitioners undertaking or overseeing fostering assessments including assessing social workers, supervisors and panel members.



Feedback

"Amy's knowledge and passion was inspiring, she has given me confidence and tools moving forward".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

The Impact of Shame on Children



10th June 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-3:30pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Martina Wolter

In this training we will explore what 'shame' is and how it develops, in particular the toxic stress experienced by children with a background of abuse and/or neglect. As well as exploring the causes we will identify the signs and the connection of shame to trauma. We will learn to identify 'typical' shame responses, we will think about how parents and carers can help children regulate this big emotion and also how they can help to minimise shame-based behaviour.

Audience

Foster carers, kinship carers, residential care workers, adoptive parents and professionals who support them.



Feedback

"Martina was passionate, fluent and easily understood".

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Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Supervising Social Worker - Annual Reviews



12th June 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Tracy Bowen

This workshop has been developed to support the knowledge and skills required by the Supervising Social Worker. It provides a comprehensive overview that can equip social workers with the techniques needed to undertake Annual Reviews.

Learning outcomes:

- The legal and regulatory requirements.
- Preparing for an Annual Review
- Keeping the review child focused.
- The role and responsibilities of Chair and the Supervising Social Worker
- The consultation and feedback requirements

More learning objectives can be seen via the booking link below.

Audience

Supervising Social Workers



Feedback

"I enjoyed gaining new information and learning how to put it into use, learning from hearing others' experience and taking on board what I could use/do in the future".

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Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

DDP Level 2



12th, 13th, 18th &
19th June 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-4:30pm

Location: Virtual

**Member price &
Non-member price:** £875+VAT

Trainer: Alison Keith

This **4-day course** is open to those professionals who have undertaken the 4-day Dyadic Developmental Practice and Psychotherapy (DDP) Level One training. Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy is an intervention model developed by Dan Hughes, Clinical Psychologist, USA. This approach helps social workers, clinical psychologists, therapists, and other practitioners to understand and effectively support children, young people and their families. In this model, theory and research in the areas of developmental trauma, child development and attachment theory are integrated to produce a ways of working that help with relationship development and trauma resolution. DDP recognises the vital role that adoptive parents, foster carers, residential workers and social workers play in the recovery of traumatised, attachment-resistant children.

Audience

Professionals who have undertaken the 4 day Dyadic Developmental Practice and Psychotherapy (DDP) Level One training and taken a 6 month gap between attending Level One and Level Two in order to have time to develop the skills that are taught.

BOOK NOW

Feedback

"Thank you so much for creating a 'brave space' and in the end what felt like a very safe space. This training has had and I think will continue to have more of an impact on me as a person/practitioner and my practice than most things I have done in recent years".





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Outcome Based Care Planning for Children Looked After



17th June 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Hannah Brown

This training explores best practice in relation to writing and reviewing care and support plans. It focuses on how to keep the child at the centre of the care planning process and the valuable input of every member of the team around the child.

Audience

Student Social Workers, Children's Social Workers, IROs, Children's Social Care Managers.



Feedback

"Good group discussion. Hannah is really clear. Training is completely relevant to my work, and this has been a great refresher and has highlighted areas for improvement in our team".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Supervising Social Worker - Supporting Foster Carers with their Learning and Development Needs



26th June 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-1pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Tracy Bowen

This workshop has been developed to support the knowledge and skills required by the Supervising Social Worker. It provides a comprehensive overview that can equip social workers with the techniques needed to support foster carers with their learning and development needs.

Learning Objectives:

- The use of the Foster Wales Learning and Development Framework
- The Supervision of Learning and Development in day-to-day practice
- Flexible learning and its application for Foster Carers and Supervising Social Workers
- The application of the fostering competencies in the review of learning and development.

Audience

Supervising Social Workers



Feedback

"Tracy delivered the training at an appropriate rate; she explained things very well and brought interesting case scenarios".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

PACE (in the context of a wider therapeutic parenting/care approach)



1st July 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-4pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Martina Wolter

This workshop is developed to embed the theory of PACE in the therapeutic principle of 'Connection before Correction'. Learning will support participants to understand the need for 'PACE-ful' care and make it easier to adopt it.

Before the principles of PACE are introduced, we will spend some time reflecting on the specific situation of children and young people in care, as well as on the effects of their early trauma on their identity and their relationships with peers and adults. We will look at the reasons why these young people need adults who are actively and consistently offering an emotional connection. We will then look at how PACE can provide this connection and help the young people develop trust.

Audience

Practitioners supporting children and young people



Feedback

"Practical and theory was balanced with some very useful examples that linked with the work we are doing".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Life Journey Work for Children Looked After



8th July 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Hannah Brown

This course is designed to give an understanding of the 'life-journey' process and purpose, extending throughout the child's life. An understanding of the different themes that make up life journey work: the impact of trauma, ACE's, loss and grief, exploration of life history, family history and identity and explore best practice in the facilitation of ongoing life story work which will enable children's and young people's understanding of their past, acceptance of their present and hopefulness about the future.

Audience

Adoption, Fostering & SGO Social Workers, Children's Social Workers, IROs, Children's Social Care Managers, Independent Social Workers, Foster Carers.

BOOK NOW

Feedback

"This training was really useful to help me plan and understand my working with children about their identity and history. I will take the time to understand their history for them and to be honest with them as I now recognise that they can handle this and it is vital for their identity. Thank you for this training!"

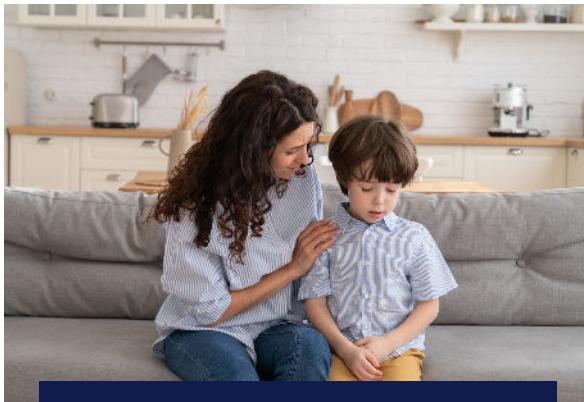




Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Assessing Risk & Providing Support to Families Caring for Children who Self-Harm



16th July 2025

Details:

Time: 9:30am-3pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Natalia Osborne

This workshop focuses on addressing the complexities of ensuring the safety of care-experienced children who self-harm whilst ensuring care givers are supported to care for them. Professionals will discuss best practice frameworks for reducing risk and share ideas on how to effectively support families caring for children who self-harm.

Audience

Practitioners supporting children and young people



Feedback

"Good sharing of experiences, utilising assessments, good advice on tips/strategies for child".

BOOK NOW





Workshop

AFKA CYMRU

Viability Assessments in Wales: Legal and Practical Considerations



17th July 2025

Details:

Time: 10am-1pm

Location: Virtual

Member price: £88

Non-member price: £106

Trainer: Amy Shepherd

This training course provides social workers and professionals in Wales with a comprehensive understanding of viability assessments. The session explores the legal framework underpinning viability assessments, offering clarity on statutory requirements and case law. It also examines practical approaches to assessing potential carers enabling participants to gain the skills and knowledge needed to balance safeguarding principles with a strengths-based approach, ensuring thorough and fair evaluations that prioritise the welfare of the child.

Audience

Social workers undertaking viability assessments in Wales.



Feedback

"Just excellent presentation skills from an experienced practitioner".

BOOK NOW





AFKA Cymru also has a number of course titles in addition to those listed in this brochure, which can be offered as a commission to your service. Our most popular titles are below. If you would like further information on these or would like a discussion on other courses which are not advertised in this brochure, please contact by completing our [training request](#) form.

Commissioned Courses	Trainer/Consultant
Foster Panel	Amy Shepherd / Tracy Bowen
Preparation to Foster	Amy Shepherd / Tracy Bowen / Natalia Osborne
Preparation to Adopt	Helen Hawksworth
Adoption Panel	Helen Hawksworth
Matching for Children Looked After	Samantha Frith-Jones
Permanency Planning for Foster Carers	Tracy Bowen
Making Good Assessments – Adoption	Natalia Osborne
The Role of Child Care Social Workers in Making and Supporting Adoptive Placements	Helen Hawksworth / Natalia Osborne
Moving Children On	Amy Shepherd
When I Am Ready	Amy Shepherd



Commissions

AFKA CYMRU

Section 7 & 37 Reports	Barbara Evans
Secure Base for Care Givers	Joan Hunt
Understanding and Navigating Food and Self Care Issues	Joan Hunt
Emotional Coaching – An Emotional Approach to Behaviour Management	Joan Hunt
Telling Children Difficult Information	Natalia Osborne
Safeguarding in Kinship Care and Building Relationships in Kinship Care	Amy Shepherd
SGO Support Plan	Sarah Coldrick
s76 SSWB(W)A 2014 and the Provision of Voluntary Accommodation	Sarah Coldrick
Panel Administration Support – Foster & Adoption	Samantha Frith-Jones
Using the Connected Person / Kinship Report Form C Wales and Wales Kinship Competencies for Fostering	Amy Shepherd
Preparation to Kinship Foster Care / Special Guardian	Amy Shepherd
Supporting Reunification Plans	Tracy Bowen
Thinking of Becoming a Special Guardian?	Amy Shepherd





Feedback



"I am so much more confident following my training, the peer-to-peer chats were excellent".



"The trainer answered all questions with highly informative information - a fantastic course, thank you".



"A really enjoyable day with a fantastic trainer who made everything so easy to understand".



"The course contained brilliantly selected case studies which I will use for reference in practice".



"The warm delivery was professional and clear; I will actively seek out future AFKA Cymru courses".



"AFKA Cymru courses are always relevant and contain the latest information and guidance".



"AFKA Cymru courses are fantastic, really well-presented and contain a superb overview of the subject which I can take into practice".



"We were a group of mixed levels of experience and the trainer aimed this course at all of us perfectly".





Get in Touch

AFKA CYMRU



Advice Line

AFKA Cymru is proud to offer professionals and members of the public information and advice on permanency related enquiries. Please contact us [HERE](#) with your query.

029 2076 1155



AFKA Cymru
c/o St. David's Children Society



<https://x.com/AFKACymru>



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Gofal Perthynas a Mabwysiadu

Association for Fostering,
Kinship and Adoption