

COURSE TITLE: FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCES – IN PRACTICE

Trainer:

Janette Tompkins is a qualified social worker with over 20 years experience in the field as a practitioner and manager. For the past five years she has been developing and managing Family Group Conference services for a London borough.

Aims and Objectives:

The course provides a review of the origins of Family Group Conferences and their development as a professional tool. There is a comprehensive overview of practice, including the role of the FGC in empowering families to use their strengths to agree and implement a plan.

The FGC is then considered within the wider context of safeguarding and planning for children and young people, including a growing role in the Court process.

Duration of Course:

One whole day (9.30 to 4.30 with breaks)

Target Audience:

All practitioners working with children and young people will find the course a useful introduction to a key process in working with children and their families. It will be of particular benefit to social workers in the statutory children's sector.

Numbers:

The course is designed in seminar format for between 12 and 20 participants

Teaching Method:

There is a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation, combined with small group exercises. The seminar format allows for sharing of experiences from practice and interaction between trainer and participants.

Course Synopsis:

- History, principles and model
- The legal and practice basis. including the Public Law Outline for Children's Proceedings (2007)
- FGCs in the wider context of safeguarding and planning for children and young people
- The FGC Co-ordinator and other professional roles
- The child or young person at the centre of the FGC process
- The role of the family and significant others
- Factors which support or impede an effective FGC
- Looking at 'effective outcomes'
- The review process