Childhood neglect: Notes for trainers

Focus on parenting capacity **1 day**	Learning outcomes
	To identify concerns about parenting difficulties that may contribute to child neglect
	To assess parenting received by a child
	To address factors affecting parenting capacity

Audiences: 2–4

Seven-step model: 1–6

Brief key to audiences and work with children and/or families	Brief key to seven-step model
1 Infrequent contact	1 Consider referral and safety issues
2 Regular, or irregular but intense, contact	2 Gather information
3 Work predominantly with children and/or families	3 Organise information using Assessment Framework triangle
4 Responsibilities relating to s47 enquiries	4 Analyse processes affecting child's health and development
5 Professional advisors; named/designated professionals	5 Predict outlook for child
6 Operational managers	6 Plan interventions
7 Senior managers	7 Identify outcomes and measures
8 LSCB board members	

Comments

This may be a used as a stand-alone introductory course. It can support practitioners in assessing parental difficulties such as domestic abuse, mental health and parental substance misuse under the family and environmental factors domain. These are problems likely to affect the parent's functioning, and practitioners need to establish to what extent these difficulties may have an impact on the parent's ability to care for the child, depending on the child's age, developmental needs and any special needs.

It is possible to add (or use in follow-up training) bite-size sessions that zoom into some of these parental issues in more detail – for example:

- parental substance misuse, using presentations P8 and P23 and exercises E9 and E20

- parents with learning disability, using presentations P9 and P24 and exercise E10

- parenting and domestic violence, using P7

- parenting with mental health problems, using P10.

Similarly, depending on the needs of the audience, any of the following could be used:

- Understanding factors affecting parental empathy – E8

- Communicating concerns to parents – E13

- Engaging parents and carers – E21

- Improving parenting capacity – E30

- Working with children, parents and families – E42

- Planning to meet carers' needs – E43

- Communicating with parents – P15

- Understanding cumulative harm – P28.

To review or download any of these presentations (and notes) and exercises (and guidance), visit http://bit.ly/1gjK4TX

Focus on parenting capacity

Suggested programme

Key to codes

`P` PowerPoint presentation		`N` Presentation notes		`E` Exercise		`H` Handout	
`G` Trainer guidance		`F` Family case study		`M` Audio		`MS` Video	

Click on the symbols below to download the files.

Session theme	Materials/Activity	Duration	Sample timing
Housekeeping and introductions		15m	9.30–9.45
Warm up	Warm up `E` `G`	15m	9.45–10.00
A child's experience	Emily's story `M4.0` audio Discussion in pairs	15m (5m 16s for audio)	10.00–10.15
Identifying when parenting capacity results in neglect	Identifying when parenting capacity results in neglect `P2` `N2`	30m	10.15–10.45
Identifying concerns about parenting capacity which affect the child and their needs	Identifying concerns about parenting capacity which affect the child and their needs `E3` `G3` Key facts about domestic abuse `H12` Addiction and dependence `H15`	45m	10.45–11.30
Break		15m	11.30–11.45
Assessing parenting capacity	Assessing parenting capacity `P12` `N12`	30m	11.45–12.15
Engaging parents and carers	Engaging parents and carers `E21` `G21` Henderson/Miller/Taylor family case study `F2.0` Claire Henderson's story `F2.1` `M2.1` audio Darren Miller's story `F2.2` `M2.2` audio Michelle Henderson's story `F2.3` `M2.3` audio Troy Taylor's story `F2.4` `M2.4` audio Susan Miller's story `F2.5` `M2.5` audio Motivation to change `H8`	45m (2m 49s) (2m 58s) (1m 51s) (3m 09s) (2m 25s)	12.15–13.00
Lunch		60m	13.00–14.00
Effective interventions	Effective interventions `P19` `N19` Understanding neglect from a parent's view `H9`	30m	14.00–14.30

Session theme	Materials/Activity	Duration	Sample timing
Improving parenting capacity	Improving parenting capacity `E30` `G30` *Either* Henderson/Miller/Taylor family case study `F2.0` Claire Henderson's story `F2.1` `M2.1` audio Darren Miller's story `F2.2` `M2.2` audio Michelle Henderson's story `F2.3` `M2.3` audio Troy Taylor's story `F2.4` `M2.4` audio Susan Miller's story `F2.5` `M2.5` audio *or* Evans family case study `F1.0` Fiona Evans' story `F1.1` `M1.1` audio Steve Evans' story `F1.2` `M1.2` audio Liam Evans' story `F1.3` `M1.3` audio Shireen Evans' story `F1.4` `M1.4` audio Lewis Evans' story `F1.5` `M1.5` audio	45m (2m 49s) (2m 58s) (1m 51s) (3m 09s) (2m 25s) (3m 46s) (2m 16s) (2m 07s) (2m 24s) (2m 22s)	14.30–15.15
Q&As, evaluation and close		15m	15.15–15.30

Research and links

Publications

Birleson, P. (1981) 'The validity of depressive disorder in childhood and the development of a self-rating scale: a research report'. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry* 22, 73–88.

Brandon, M., Bailey, S., Belderson, P., Warren, C. Gardner, R. and Dodsworth, J. (2009*) Understanding Serious Case Reviews and their Impact*. London: Department for Children, Schools and Families. http://bit.ly/1i2eYf5

Cleaver, H., Unell, I. and Aldgate, J. (2011) *Children's Needs – Parenting Capacity. Child Abuse: Parental mental illness, learning disability, substance misuse and domestic violence* (2nd edition). London: The Stationery Office.

Daniel, B., Taylor, J. and Scott, J. (2011) *Recognizing and Helping the Neglected Child: Evidence-based practice for assessment and intervention*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers (Chapter 5).

Davies, C. and Ward, H. (2012) *Safeguarding Children Across Services: Messages from research*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. http://bit.ly/GXRZGx

Farmer, E. and Lutman, E. (2010) 'Case management and outcomes for neglected children returned to their parents: a five year follow-up study.' Research Brief. London: Department for Children, Schools and Families. http://bit.ly/19WH7VK

Goodman, R., Meltzer, H. and Bailey, V. (1998) 'The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire: a pilot study on the validity of the self-report version.' *European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 7, 125–130.

Hester, M., Pearson, C. and Harwin, N. (2000) *Making an Impact: Children and domestic violence*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Horwath, J. (2007) *Child Neglect: Identification and assessment*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Horwath, J. (2013) *Child Neglect: Planning and intervention.* Second edition. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Jack, G. and Gill, O. (2003) *The Missing Side of the Triangle: Assessing the importance of family and environmental factors in the lives of children.* Barkingside: Barnardo's.

McLeod, A. (2008) *Listening to Children: A practitioner's guide*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Moran, P. (2009) *Neglect: Research evidence to inform practice*. London: Action for Children.

Nair, P., Schuler, M.E., Black, M.M., Kettinger, L. and Harrington, D. (2003) 'Cumulative environmental risk in substance abusing women: early intervention, parenting stress, child abuse potential and child development.' *Child Abuse and Neglect* 27, 9, 997–1017.

Spencer, N. and Baldwin, N. (2005) 'Economic, cultural and social contexts of neglect.' In J. Taylor and B. Daniel (eds) Child Neglect: Practice issues for health and social care. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Tools and resources

Assessing parenting and the family life of children (training course)
http://bit.ly/17yoH7P

In My Shoes: A computer-assisted interview for communicating with children, young people and vulnerable adults
http://bit.ly/1i21lHj