

Workshop title: Foster Carer Peer Mentoring

Aim: To help a fostering service provider plan and set up a foster carer peer mentoring scheme

Designed for: Foster carers and supervising social workers

Objectives: During the workshop, participants will

- understand what foster carer peer mentoring is and how it works
- appreciate the development of the mentoring process
- learn and practise some key skills of a peer mentor
- gain a clearer idea of their individual and organisational plan for a foster carer peer mentoring scheme

Method: This workshop will be participative, using practical examples and exercises to help everyone relate the learning to themselves and the proposed peer mentoring scheme within their organisation

Length: Two days: 10am – 4pm

Content: What is foster carer peer mentoring?

- * The purpose, benefits and scope of a peer mentoring scheme
- * The role and responsibilities of peer mentors
- * Key relationships for a foster carer peer mentor

The development of the mentoring process

- * Set the scene and boundaries for realistic expectations
- * Monitor and record all discussions and actions
- * Have a clear end to the mentoring process

What makes a good foster carer peer mentor?

- * Qualities, values and attitudes needed in foster carer peer mentors
- * Skills and competences to be developed in foster carer peer mentors
- * Personal development for peer mentors

Possible problems and solutions

- * Think ahead and communicate with anyone affected
- * Face up to possible problems and find solutions or answers
- * Start planning now (individually and as a fostering service provider)

All our fostering training workshops are linked to the Training, Support and Development Standards