



Young People Matter

Training Course for Professionals working with Children & Young People who have suffered loss & trauma

Sat 12th, Sun 13th & Mon 14th March 2011

Venue – Tara Centre, Omagh

Facilitated by
Brenda Meldrum

Aim of the 3-Day Course

To give participants an introduction to child development and attachment theory and provide them with skills and knowledge to work safely with children and young people, to make appropriate relationships with them and to enter their worlds.

By the end of the course, participants will have developed strategies to support clients with emotional needs in order to assist their social and emotional development.

Course Units

The course comprises three units, each one delivered in a day:

- **Child Development and the Development of Play**
- **Attachment, Loss and Trauma**
- **Working Creatively with Children and Young people through Play, Art and Story.**

Day 1: Child Development & the Development of Play.

In this unit we shall take a holistic approach to child development, seeing the child and young person as an individual growing up within a family, a culture and a society. We shall look at the development of communication within a model where language develops through interaction with significant relationships through non-verbal communication and symbolic play.



Day 2: Attachment, Loss and Trauma

The breakdown of significant relationships through death, illness, neglect, abuse, disaster and rejection has a profound effect on the developing child and young person. We shall look at how we make relationships with others, and relate these insights to our work.

We shall examine the effects of loss on children and young people and how their experiences may affect their self-esteem, personal well-being and behaviour.

Day 3: Working Creatively with children and young people through Play, Art and Story.

This unit encompasses the skills and knowledge Government deems necessary for effective communication and engagement with children and young people; verbal and non-verbal communication of thoughts and ideas and feelings through play are intrinsic to this unit. We shall examine narrative theory and solution-focused approach with insights from our training in emotional literacy and intelligence and we shall be exploring the ways of working with children and young people, both one-to-one through small world and sand tray work and in small groups. We shall work on making endings.

Teaching and learning Methods:

The teaching and learning methods are a mixture of short lectures, experiential work, exercises on strategies, small and large group discussion and feedback. The expectation is 100% attendance.

Each unit has a handout and is accompanied with a bibliography.