

Improving Children's Reviews



We Learn We Change

Working together for social change

with
BAKER & JOY
COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Module Handbook (Blended learning)

Name _____ Date _____

Welcome to Improving Children's Reviews

This is one module from our Care Matters Programme, which comprises a range of modules for families and workers involved in supporting people's well-being. Like all our modules, it is person-centred and based on research, policy, practice and the expertise of experience. Successful completion of the course and the on-line final assessment leads to the award of a module certificate. Successful completion of five or more modules leads to the Care Matters Course certificate.

Our Learning Agreement

As a learning group, to get the best from today, we commit to:

- Listen well
- Engage in the learning and share from our experience
- Respect each others views
- Maintain confidentiality
- Keep to programme times
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Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the day, you should be able to:

1. Summarise the purpose and process of a Looked After Child Review
2. Explain who should attend reviews and what is their role
3. Support young people to have their voice in reviews.

My Learning goals for today:

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Programme

Your trainer today is:

(see course information)

We commit to cover the learning outcomes of the module within the advertised start and end times. The times of each session and the breaks may be adjusted by agreement during the day. We may spend longer on one topic and less time on another according to the needs of the learning group.

9.30	Welcome and introductions
9.45	Looked After Child (LAC) Reviews and children's rights
10.20	The Great LAC Review Quiz: law and guidance
11.00	BREAK
11.15	Child-centred reviews: removing barriers
11.45	Child-centred reviews: supporting participation
12.20	Learning review
12.30	END

Improving Children's Reviews Quiz

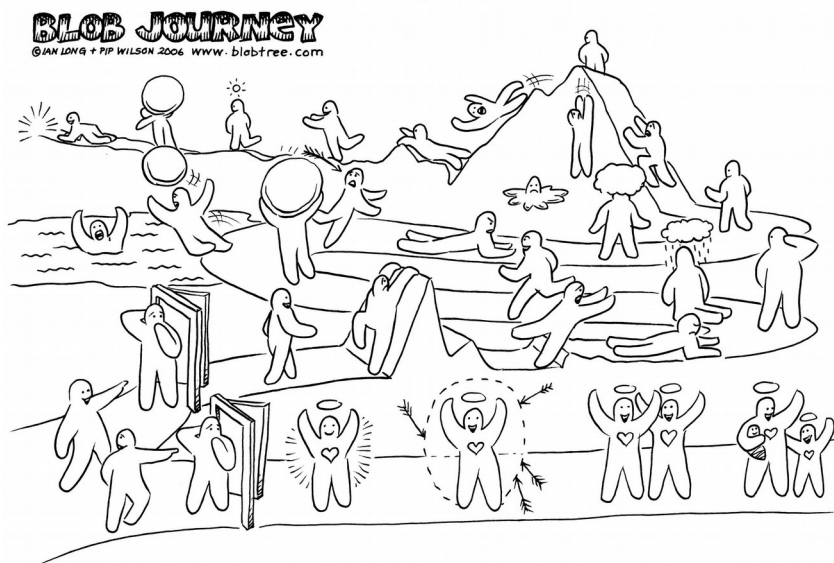
Take the **initial assessment quiz** on our e-learning site to test your existing knowledge of Review meetings before the training day.

You will get feedback when you submit your answers.

Note any questions below to raise on the training day. Note any amendments to your personal learning goals on page two.

During the day...still got questions? Note them here to write on the board and we'll answer them during the training; or post on the course forum after the training day.

Big Decisions



Imagine you have been offered the job of your dreams, but it means moving to a different continent.

How will you decide whether to go?

Who will you talk to?

What help do you need?

How do you feel about making this decision?

For looked after young people, review meetings make similar big decisions but with less choice and control, and with people they may not like or have chosen to be there. Today is about giving young people a bigger voice.

The Rights of Looked After Children

What legal status can looked after children and young people have?

What rights do looked after children and young people have?

See the module reader and module presentation for more information about looked after children and young people's rights.

Young People's Review Meeting Participation Ladder



- What is your best experience of a LAC Review?
- What is your worst experience of a LAC Review?
- Where were they on the Review Meeting Participation Ladder?

Developed by Jane Chevous from the *Ladder of Participation*, Roger Hart: *Children's Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship*: UNICEF 1992.

The Great Looked After Child Review Quiz

1. Who can be an IRO?
2. When should an IRO be appointed?
3. What is the purpose of the LAC Review?
4. What are the timescales for reviews?
5. Who should be at the review?
6. What must be on the review agenda?
7. What is the role of the IRO ?
8. What events MUST trigger a review?
9. What else MUST social workers tell IROs, which MAY trigger a review?
10. What MUST the IRO do to support young people's participation?

See the Quiz handout for detailed answers (after the training day!)

Child-centred LAC Reviews

"The meetings are really boring, they're just blah, blah and bye, bye. You get a talk, say what you're doing, sit there and listen to them blabber. They're talking between each other and you're waiting to talk, it feels like forever."

What are the obstacles to young people's participation in review meetings?

How can we overcome them?

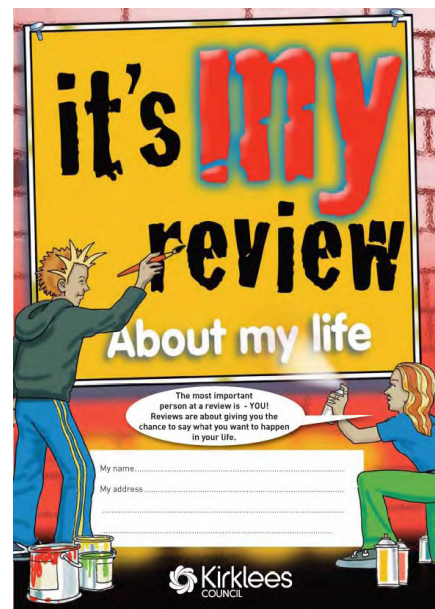
What tools are there to support participation?

Menu of Choice

It's My Review gave young people a menu of choice for their review:

- When and where should the meeting happen?
- Who do you want to be there?
- What do you want to be discussed?
- How could we make it more interesting?

Create ideas for a menu of choice for your allocated group.



Learning Review

1. Have you met all your learning goals (*see page 2*)?
2. What are your main learning points from today?
3. What will you do differently now in your practice?
4. Any further areas to research or further training needs?

Next Steps

Don't forget to log on to www.welearnwechange.org.uk to:

- download the rest of the course resources including today's presentations and the **Module Reader**
- take the on-line final assessment quiz and evaluation
- download your course certificate
- contact the learning group and your course tutor with any follow-up questions.

Thank you for learning with We Learn We Change; we hope you found it informative and inspiring. Please join our mailing list (via the website) for updates and information about further free resources, publications, course discounts and open events.

Bibliography

All resources that are available electronically can be downloaded from the course library on our website www.welearnwechange.org.uk

Legislation and Guidance

Children's Act 1989

Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations (England) 2010

Putting Care into Practice - statutory guidance for local authorities on care planning, placement and case review for looked after children 2010

Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000

Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Handbook 2010

Young People's Guide to the IRO Handbook

CAFCASS National Protocols 2014

See also local authority Care Plan templates and forms.

Reports and Research

Children and young people's views on safeguarding - research findings from 11 MILLION supported by Sherbert Research, 11 Million 2009

Start with the child, stay with the child: A Blueprint for a Child-centred Approach to Children and Young People in Public Care; Voice 2005

Making care plans work well for children: messages from UEA research into care planning and the role of the IRO; UEA 2015

Care Planning and the Role of the Independent Reviewing Officer: Report on ESRC research grant ES/J012149/1; UEA 2015

The role of Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) in England@ Final report; NCB 2015

How looked after children are involved in their review process; Have Your Say/NYA 2008

Pert, H, Diaz, C and Thomas, Nigel Children's Participation in LAC Reviews: a study in one English local authority. Child and Family Social Work/UCLAN 2014.

Useful Resources

It's My Review Booklet, Kirklees Council

MOMO Get Ready paper version

See www.mindofmyown.org.uk for more info and apps

LAC Review Co-Chair guide, Croyden Council

Review Invite, Trafford Council

LAC questionnaire 8+, Trafford Council

LAC questionnaire 8-, Trafford Council

Adams, M; Brady, L; Johnson, M. An Advocate's Guide to Complaints in England; Pavilion 2018

See also our *Improving Reviews Module Reader* for a summary of key research, legislation and good practice.