

## Safeguarding Children and Young People

### Level 7 – 15 credits

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#### Who is it for?

This multi-professional course is for health and social care professionals involved in working with children and families. It is especially relevant for Nurses working with children in hospitals, School Nurses, Children and Family Social Workers, Education staff and people working in the voluntary sector where they need to develop child protection and safeguarding analytical skills. Students attending this unit will develop the knowledge and skills required to determine the needs of individual families and safeguard the well-being of infants, children and young people.

This course unit may be taken as a stand-alone course unit or subject to approval, as part of a new postgraduate Masters degree programme to commence September 2015 (subject to any pre or co-requisite units). For further information and entry requirements see: <http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/modules/>

#### Course Unit Aims:

The course aims to advance students' knowledge and understanding of child protection and safeguarding practices at Master's degree level. This will also include exploring the impact of local authority and court interventions on children and their families. This will enable students to critically evaluate and apply a range of evidence based strategies and interventions to support children and their families in the context of contemporary practices taken from multidisciplinary perspectives.

#### What will I learn?

Safeguarding children and young people is increasingly seen as an essential aspect of care. The course is designed to maximise professionals' existing knowledge and skills and help them to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. The course will cover areas such as domestic violence, neglect as well as physical, emotional and sexual abuse. There will be some opportunity to cover specialist areas such as factitious illness as well as child protection and the processes of the family court. This course is specifically designed to enhance professional skills in the identification of child abuse and neglect and the subsequent planning of appropriate interventions as well as covering recent legislation for example, the Children Act (1989, 2004) Working Together (2010, 2013) and the new Children and Families Act (2014).

#### Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning and teaching processes include lectures, discussions, small group work, use of on-line materials and discussion; individual tutorials.

#### How is the course assessed?

The 3500 word assignment requires students to plan an intervention for an infant or child or young person based on identified risks and needs. They will undertake a comprehensive review and critically engage with the relevant literature.

## **Learning Outcomes**

Successful students will be able to:

### **Knowledge and Understanding**

- Demonstrate a critical appreciation of normative developmental milestones.
- Apply a comprehensive understanding of attachment theory to assess healthy and affected social and emotional development in infants and children.
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of research evidence in the identification and assessment of child neglect and maltreatment.
- Critically evaluate the extent to which current statutory assessment frameworks and procedural guidelines ensure the safety and well-being of infants, children and young people, drawing on a systems perspective.
- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of methods of intervention that aim to ameliorate developmental harm and promote positive developmental outcomes taking into account evaluative evidence and the views, wishes and feelings of children and their families.
- Recognise issues of professional accountability and demonstrate advanced knowledge of roles and responsibilities in multi-agency working together and safeguarding practice.

### **Intellectual Skills**

- Demonstrate an advanced ability to identify and assess the severity of developmental harm to infants and children through linking observations across a number of dimensions of child development.
- Demonstrate the ability to synthesise knowledge to plan intervention in complex cases of child neglect and maltreatment in collaboration with partner agencies.
- Demonstrate the ability to defend plans and intervention choices based on a clear appraisal of the evaluative evidence.
- Deal with complex legal and ethical implications that arise in the context of compulsory intervention.
- Use knowledge of child deaths, near misses and serious case reviews to evaluate systemic weaknesses and strengths in a range of practice settings.

### **Practical Skills**

- This course does not assess practical skills.

### **Transferable Skills**

- Play a leadership role in promoting, integrating and evaluating procedures, models and methods to enable best practice in safeguarding infants and children and young people.
- Play a leadership role in the critical review and dissemination of research relative to child protection issues and use this knowledge to promote practice change.
- Demonstrate advanced awareness of personal and professional responsibility and accountability in safeguarding infants, children and young people.
- Demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate and demonstrate leadership in the context of the legal and ethical dilemmas that stem from compulsory safeguarding intervention.

### **Attendance**

Part-time, one day a week for seven weeks. Study dates are available online at

<http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/units/studydatesbyunit.pdf>

## Dates of next intake

February 2016

NB. Course unit availability will be subject to minimum numbers.

## Funding

Funding for the programme or individual course units may be available through the CPD Service Level Agreement (SLA) for staff working in the NHS in Greater Manchester (and in the case of some course units the wider North West). To access SLA funding each course unit must be approved by an authorised SLA signatory on an individual basis. For more information applicants should contact the Education and Training lead within their organisation, Practice educator, or equivalent.

If not eligible for CPD SLA funding candidates may also apply with employer support or self-funding. The home fee for 2015-2016 will be £1005 for Level 7.

## How do I apply?

Applications must be received by the University by 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015 for the February 2016 intake.

**If you are being funded by Service Level Agreement**, please contact your Trust and then apply online at [www.cpd-applynw.nhs.uk](http://www.cpd-applynw.nhs.uk)

- **Pre-requisites**

- Must be registered with the NMC – if NMC registration is not appropriate, applicants must have achieved GCSE English at Grade C or above or equivalent.
- In addition to a recognised health professional qualification\*, all applicants require one of the following:
  - A relevant honours first degree (2:2 or above, or equivalent) from an approved higher education institution
  - Evidence of previous advanced study, research or professional experience which the University accepts as qualifying the applicant for entry

\*Health Professional in the context of this programme refers to registered Nurses, Midwives or Allied Healthcare Professionals (AHPs) in direct clinical contact with patients and registered as such with the UK NMC, HPC or their equivalent in other countries.

- **Supporting information and personal statement**

- Should include details of your current post and your role
- Outline the reasons why you wish to undertake this course unit.

**If you are not being funded by SLA**, please see application information at <http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/coursedetails/> Above pre-requisites also apply. For other information, please telephone the Admissions Office on 0161 306 7604 or email [conted.nursing@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:conted.nursing@manchester.ac.uk)