

Jen Bean

From: dialogue <news@dialogueltd.co.uk>
Sent: 05 January 2024 13:00
To: Jen Bean
Subject: dialogue - January 2024 - Residential Care Bulletin

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Residential Care Bulletin January 2024

We hope everyone enjoyed a calm Christmas and welcomed in the New Year with their teams and young people.

dialogue offers lots of support to the residential sector, we regularly review the latest research and publications, and offer a huge variety of training courses to support you and your team.

In this edition:

- **DFE update** - Safeguarding children with disabilities in residential settings: government response
- **Working Together to Safeguard Children**- updated statutory guidance for multi-agency working and FREE webinar
- **dialogue news** - your opportunity to join our team

- **Excellent training** for your independent person, safeguarding lead, RI, RM and staff with many **exciting new courses now live to book!**
- **Ofsted Annual Report** - social care findings and more
- **Children's Commissioner** - extension to the Big Ambition survey
- **January training highlight** - NEW Responsible/Nominated Individual training courses
- **NSPCC** - why language matters!
- **Partnership with NASAP**
- **Be part of the residential child care community** - reminders for members and how to join



Safeguarding children with disabilities in residential settings

The Government response to the review into safeguarding children with disabilities and complex health needs in residential settings by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, was published at the end of last year.

There were two specific recommendations that the Panel directed to providers of residential education and care for disabled children with complex health needs.

These were:

- to ensure that practitioners understand the requirements for legally compliant practice in relation to Deprivation of Liberty (DoL) Safeguards, local authorities, health services and residential settings should review their current systems, procedures, and

practice to determine their readiness for meeting the requirements under this framework when it is implemented.

- that national leadership and investment by providers is urgently required to address the longstanding challenges in recruiting, retaining and developing a skilled workforce in residential settings.

To read the report and response in full please use the button below.

Our Outstanding Residential Care for Children and Young People with disabilities course examines the underpinning framework for outstanding care and draws on our trainers' decades of experience in creating the ambition, culture, training, and monitoring environment required to enable our young people to achieve great things.

We also offer training to review MCA and DoLs practices within your own settings too.

Government Response

MCA & Liberty Protection Safeguards training

Outstanding Residential Care training



Working together to safeguard children - statutory guidance update

On Friday 15th December, we saw the new **Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023** guidance come into force. There are no significant changes to day-to-day referral practice, but there have been developments in how statutory

partners should function, in particular the removal of the independent chair role.

Our sister company, Safeguarding Network, is running a **free Working Together 2023 Webinar on Tuesday 16th January at 4.30pm**. Safeguarding Network provide in-house safeguarding training resources that you can use in your team meetings – you can find out more about these [on their website](#).

[View the updated guidance here](#)

[Reserve your FREE seat for webinar here](#)

[Safeguarding Network - resources for Residential Care](#)



Join our team of specialists

dialogue has been central to ensuring Independent People get the recognition, support and training they need nationally, but now we are looking for your help.

We are recruiting for experienced associate Independent People and consultants for work with our highly qualified team. Successful applicants will be asked to evidence a positive track record in residential child care or inspection, with a strong passion and focus on the experience of young people and capacity building of staff and teams. You will bring a substantial level of experience to support leaders and managers, and attract consultancy rates for your work. This role can sit alongside other work you may do – we talk through how you might balance your Independent Person work with other work you may have.

If you'd like to apply, you can download the job description and application form below. **Please send your completed application form to admin@dialogueltd.co.uk**. If your application is shortlisted for interview, we will be in touch to

arrange an interview time with our panel.

We're looking forward to hearing from you.

[dialogue application form](#)

[job description](#)

Upcoming Training Courses

Face to face training, virtual, at your setting or in our venue, we're ready to support you and your team.

Here's some of our upcoming courses, to see a full range of courses and memberships, please chose from the relevant options below:

[training for Residential Care](#)

[training for Supported Accommodation Providers](#)

[Regulation 44 and Standard 3 \(starting on 10th January\)](#)

[Outstanding Care Children with disabilities \(starting 18th Jan\)](#)

[Safeguarding Supervision \(starting on 6th February\)](#)

[Avoiding Medication Errors \(starting on 21st February\)](#)

[Return Home Interviews \(on 23rd February\)](#)

[Young People Missing from Care \(on 28th February\)](#)

[Managing the Inspection Process \(on 29th February\)](#)

[Safeguarding Lead \(starting on 5th March\)](#)

[Supervised Contact with Families \(on 13th March\)](#)

[Safer Recruitment \(starting on 18th March\)](#)

RI / NI training (starting on 9th April)

Regulation 45 (on 19th April)

MCA and LPS (on 25th April)

Managing Allegations (starting on 23rd April)

Harmful Sexual Behaviours (starting on 29th April)

Smoking & Vaping Cessation (starting on 2nd May)

Dynamic Risk (starting on 3rd May)



The Annual Report of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills 2022/23

At the end of November, Ofsted published its annual report and concludes that there are reasons for optimism despite the lingering effects of the pandemic and the many challenges that remain. There is much criticism of the approach taken in England to inspection and it is noteworthy that the new Chief Inspector Sir Martyn Oliver in his opening statement seeks to emphasise a changed approach.

Over the coming months Ofsted will be launching 'The Big Listen' to look to improve the regulator's approach. Ofsted report their view that the children's homes continue to improve and comment on the introduction of new regulation for the supported accommodation sector. However, as last year they highlight the biggest challenge facing the residential care is recruitment.

The report highlights the need to provide children with a

space that encourages their growth and development, where they can enjoy their childhood, and build resilience and confidence. It also says, “The people working in education and care deserve recognition and support, not a narrative of decline. It’s not a fair reflection of their work and it’s not fair on the children whose lives they help to shape.”

Ofsted Annual Report

New Chief Inspector’s first press release



Children's Commissioner - extension to the Big Ambition survey

Over the last few months, the Children's Commissioner has been travelling all over England talking to children and young people to hear what they want from politicians ahead of the next general election. So far 300,000 have responded to [The Big Ambition](#) survey but they want to give more people the chance to take part so this has been extended, with a new deadline of 19th January 2024.

Start the Survey



Responsible and Nominated Individual Training

This course is designed to meet the needs of aspiring, new and experienced Responsible & Nominated Individuals for children's homes and supported accommodation. The course is a series of very practical, live online sessions addressing the day to day life of the NI/RI with lots of reflection and embedding practice between the sessions.

The Leadership & Management standard is very similar across both sectors, so we are running joint RI/NI programmes, but also trialling a course solely for NIs in supported accommodation.

This two-day course, delivered via zoom in six 2-hour sessions, costs £264+vat, reduced to **£132+vat for members**.

Our next training dates, being delivered virtually, are running **1:30-3:30pm on 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th April and 7th & 14th May 2024**. You can read full details and make a booking for these dates by clicking on the button below or by contacting one of our team at **admin@dialogueltd.co.uk**

[Read more and book training](#)



Why Language Matters!

We know that taking risks is an important part of growing up and learning independence. However, in a blog for its 'Why Language Matters' series, NSPCC Learning argues that using the term "risky behaviour" when focusing on teenagers experiencing abuse and exploitation can play down

safeguarding concerns.

The blog explains that using this term can incorrectly imply the child is responsible for the harm they are experiencing and can divert a response to address the child's behaviour rather than providing protection from their abuser.

[Read the blog in full here](#)

[Find out more on our Exploitation Leads Forum](#)



Collaboration over competition, always

We are pleased to be working with the National Association of Supported Accommodation Partners with bite-size training sessions, co-chairing their peer to peer support sessions and supporting the NASAP Board.

We've set out a new page for supported accommodation providers highlighting the training most relevant for them and plan to work with the sector to create an NI guidance and support document early next year.

If you're interested in joining NASAP please [visit their page](#) to register

[Training for Supported Accommodation Providers](#)

Developing specialisms - communities of interest

As the communities continue to grow, we wanted to remind current members that these meetings are contain essential information to support your statements of purpose, improve the care of the young people you support AND lighten to the load of the Registered Manager. If you miss a meeting you can also retrieve the resources from the archive in the members' areas, but the best way to get the most out of your memberships is to ensure the dates are saved in your diaries and you attend on the day.

Leading residential care can be an isolating experience and in truth is a job best shared. We've been working with leaders across the sector to create communities that regularly meet in line to discuss the issues that matter to you young people. By identifying leads for key areas, such as online safety, managers share the load with senior team members, then by connecting your team with similar leads in other homes we become less insular in practice and all learn how to improve.

The communities meet quarterly with 2-3 hours of CPD including updates on recent research, speakers, a surgery and sharing of great practice.

As always we've found ways to keep the costs very low and the more you engage the less you pay - joining one community is £99+vat for a whole year, additional groups at £79+vat each or we now have a **'whole home offer' paying just £399+vat annually, to have a staff member (can be different members for each community) from your home at each of the NOW SEVEN communities.**

TRY FOR FREE: We'll not send your first invoice until after your first session. If it's not for you, just let us know...

Click now to express interest and find out more.

whole home offer for all communities

Residential Leadership Group - 16th January

Exploitation Leads - 30th January

Safer Recruitment - 30th January

Participation Leads - 21st February

Online Safety - 5th March

Trauma Information Residential Leads - 6th March

Children with disabilities - 18th March

Want training on something else?

For a full list of training topics to support the residential sector, please visit www.dialogueltd.co.uk/residential

We also design bespoke courses to meet the needs of you and your staff. Do get in touch to discuss.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Jen Bean
01803 493030

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Who are we?

dialogue provides training, coaching & mentoring, consultancy, safeguarding audits and independent visiting services for children's homes, residential schools and supported living providers. We prefer to work closely with you to identify areas of need and devise bespoke packages that demonstrably improve the lives of young people in your care. Training for managers, residential workers and other staff includes supervision, safeguarding, care planning & analysis, recording and much more.

[Click here](#) for more information.
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Our mailing address is:
Chimmels, Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6EQ

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