

## Looked After Children Practice Exchange Network

15 January 2009, London  
21 January 2009, Birmingham  
4 February 2009, Cambridge  
10 February 2009, Leeds

Improving the outcomes for children in care is a goal shared by practitioners, managers, policy managers, children, young people and their carers and central to legislation and Government policy.

An important part of achieving this is through a workforce that is skilled, knowledgeable and confident in meeting the needs of each individual looked after child. The task is not easy and with the hectic daily schedule of front line practitioners, having the space to reflect on, practice, develop new skills and knowledge presents challenges.

As a contribution to the learning and development of practitioners working with children in care, the National Children's Bureau have been granted funding by the Department for Children, Schools and Families to run regional based events for practitioners working with looked after children over the next three years.

# Programme

9:30	Registration and refreshments
10:00	Welcome by the Chair
10:15	Keynote address from the government regions <i>Latest government policies/news and what's happening in the region roundup</i>
10:45	Q and A Round table discussion <i>Three burning issues- what you need to know or find out to help your work with LAC</i>
11:15	Refreshment break
11:30	Practice based speaker
12:00	Q and A Round table discussion <i>How the ideas could be put into practice</i>
12:30	Lunch
1:30	Chair: welcome back
1:40	Solutions to the key issues <i>Round table discussion on ideas</i>
2:40	Refreshment break
2:50	Action planning
3:00	Close of seminar

# Speakers

**Mike Scott,**  
Young London Matters Project  
Manager, London Councils

**Alison Penny,**  
Coordinator, Childhood Bereavement  
Network

**Mandy Smith,**  
Government Office West Midlands

**Wendy Green,**  
Safeguarding Policy Lead,  
Government Office Yorkshire and  
Humber

**Lorraine Hansom,**  
Divisional Manager, Kirklees  
Children and Young People Service

**Ganga Westwood,**  
Policy Officer for Vulnerable  
Children, Early Years and Childhood  
Team, GO EAST

# Chair

**Sheree Kane,**  
Independent Consultant, Looked  
After Children

# Content

The aim of the LAC Practice Exchange Network is to provide practitioners with up to date knowledge and ideas to help improve practice and outcomes for children in care which can be fed back to individual practitioners local authority.

The LAC Practice Exchange Network events will provide the opportunity for practitioners from across each region to come together to hear about what is happening at a regional level from the Government regional offices and to hear from speakers on topics relevant to direct practice.

The events also provide opportunities to network, share best practice, discuss burning issues and find solutions to improve practice with children in care. Participants will be provided with materials from the day to enable feedback to participant's own local authority.

Each participant and local authority will also be provided with a yearly briefing, which summarises all the key issues, topics covered and messages for practice from across all the regional events.

## Who should attend?

- Social workers
- Residential staff
- Foster carers
- Personal advisors
- Front line managers of children services
- Health professionals working with LAC
- Education professionals working with LAC

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Please contact NCB Conferences and Training on 020 7843 6441 if you have not received confirmation and joining instructions at least two weeks prior to the date of the event.

Once complete, please return to: Conferences Department, National Children's Bureau, 8 Wakley Street, London, EC1V 7QE, fax: 020 7843 6039, tel: 020 7843 6441, email: [ndin-gabisi@ncb.org.uk](mailto:ndin-gabisi@ncb.org.uk)