

When a Child Dies



Programme Outline

1 – 2 hours

An introduction to child death review processes

Aim

This awareness raising programme aims to introduce participants to the processes of the Rapid Response to Unexpected Child Deaths and the Child Death Review processes as outlined in Chapter 7 of *Working Together to Safeguard Children (2006)*.

Target Audience

1. Lead in for professionals who will go on to complete more in depth training
2. Training for professionals who will be involved from time to time in the processes / managers of services (e.g. GPs, HVs, Midwives, Police Control, Uniformed Officers, Social Workers, Education Managers, CP officers, Voluntary organisations & other hospital staff)

Teaching Methods

1. Individual learning prior to attending (1/2 hour reading)
2. New concepts will be taught following the basic pattern of Introduce – Repeat – Practice
3. Brief presentations (including video clips) followed by group activities

Learning Objectives

After completing this module, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the basic causes and patterns of childhood deaths including unexpected childhood deaths
2. Discuss the main purposes of the rapid response and child death review processes
3. Explain how these processes relate to other processes occurring after a child dies, including death registration, child protection enquiries, criminal and coronial investigations, and Serious Case Reviews
4. Describe the key components of the rapid response to an unexpected child death
5. Recognise the key roles and responsibilities of different professionals and agencies in responding to and learning from child deaths
6. Assess their individual contribution to the process
7. Notify their local team of a child's death
8. Contribute to a rapid response or child death review when requested to
9. Participate in subsequent training programmes: Responding to an unexpected child death and Reviewing childhood deaths



Programme

1	Prior individual learning – participants will be sent pre-course material 1 week in advance (also available on-line): - Background reading providing a brief summary of patterns and causes of childhood death; overview of Chapter 7 of Working Together	(30mins)
2	Introduction – welcome; recap on Chapter 7 processes (presentation) & purpose (brainstorm in small groups)	20 min
3	Group activity around Rapid Response – identifying priorities, roles and responsibilities	20 min
4	Presentation on the Child Death Overview Panel – purposes and process	15 min
5	Summary, Evaluation and suggestions for further learning	10 min

Optional extra material

Scene-setting presentation from a bereaved parent.
Agency-specific training in relation to the rapid response processes.
Input from local or national bereavement support.
DVD – *Why Jason Died* plus notes on how to use the DVD.

Resources

1. Facilitators' notes
2. DVD – *Why Jason Died*
3. Background reading
 - a) Patterns and causes of childhood death
 - b) Responding when a child dies
4. Powerpoint presentation on Chapter 7 processes plus facilitators notes and handout
5. Case study – excerpt from *Why Jason Died*; questions and prompts for group work
6. Powerpoint presentation on child death overview panel
7. Evaluation and feedback sheets