

ONE DAY CONFERENCE

ADOPTION SUPPORT PLANS: CHILDREN FIRST?



DATE: WEDNESDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2007
TIME: 8.45AM FOR 9.15AM START – 4.30PM
VENUE: BANKSIDE HOUSE (SOUTHBANK – ADJACENT TO TATE MODERN) 24 SUMNER STREET, LONDON, SE1 9JA
COST: £100.00 IF BOOKED BEFORE 10/10/07
 £110.00 IF BOOKED AFTER 10/10/07
 £45.00 FOR FAMILIES / CARERS

DISCOUNT: **10% DISCOUNT TO GROUPS OF 3 OR MORE FROM THE SAME ORGANISATION (MADE AT SAME TIME OF BOOKING)**

SRA CPD Accreditation

Solicitors can gain CPD points for attendance of our courses. (Grade: Intermediate). Solicitors please quote DFZ/PAFC, to claim CPD credit for attendance of this course. CPD Credit: 5 Hours 50 Minutes

TARGET AUDIENCE

Social Workers, Children's Guardians, Solicitors, Barristers, Adoption Support Agency Workers, Foster and Adoptive Carers, Family Placement Workers (Fostering & Adoption), Education Professionals, Health Visitors, Play Therapists, Medical Advisors, Policy Makers.

PROGRAMME

8.45	WELCOME, REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS	(30 MINS)
9.15	OPENING & INTRODUCTION <i>CHAIR: HEDI ARGENT, INDEPENDENT ADOPTION CONSULTANT, TRAINER AND FREELANCE WRITER</i>	(15 MINS)
9.30	THE NEED FOR HOLISTIC ASSESSMENTS OF CHILDREN'S POST ADOPTION NEEDS <i>DR MARY MATHER, CONSULTANT COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIAN, BEXLEY CARE TRUST</i>	(45 MINS)
10.15	THE POST ADOPTION LEGAL FRAMEWORK – IS IT WORKING? & CROSS BOUNDARY EXPERIENCE <i>PAT MONRO, CHILDREN'S SOLICITOR</i>	(45 MINS)
11.00	REFRESHMENTS	(15 MINS)
11.15	THE NEED FOR LONG TERM SUPPORT - WHAT DOES PARENTS FOR CHILDRENS PRACTICE & RESEARCH TELL US? - PLACING AND SUPPORTING CHILDREN AFFECTED BY MATERNAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE <i>EDWINA BROCKLESBY PHD BSC (ECON) CQSW, DIRECTOR, PARENTS FOR CHILDREN & HEDI ARGENT, BAAF ADOPTION CONSULTANT & FORMERLY PFC'S ADOPTION SUPPORT</i>	(60 MINS)
12.15	ENSURING ADEQUATE FUNDING OF POST ADOPTION SUPPORT <i>REPRESENTATIVE ADCS/DCSF – TBC</i>	(30 MINS)
12.45	LUNCH	(60 MINS)
1.45	MEETING POST ADOPTION NEEDS – EXPERIENCE OF THE POST ADOPTION CENTRE <i>MONICA DUCK, DIRECTOR, POST ADOPTION CENTRE</i>	(45 MINS)
2.30	REFRESHMENTS	(10 MINS)
2.40	GROUP DISCUSSIONS: THE BLOCKS TO EFFECTIVE ADOPTION SUPPORT PLANS <i>LINDA PLUMMER, POST ADOPTION SOCIAL WORKER, PARENTS FOR CHILDREN WILL BE PRESENT TOGETHER WITH SPEAKERS FROM THE DAY</i>	(45 MINS)
3.25	AIMING HIGH? – THE PROVISION OF SHORT BREAK CARE WITHIN POST ADOPTION <i>SHARED CARE NETWORK / EDCM – SPEAKER TBC</i>	(50 MINS)
4.15 – 4.30	PLENARY & CLOSE	(15 MINS)

To book a place on this conference contact Charlotte Lindsell on 020 7520 2880 or by E-mail at charlotte@parentsforchildren.org.uk www.parentsforchildren.org.uk **By 17/10/07**

AIMS & LEARNING OUTCOMES

The objective of this conference is the promotion of effective adoption support plans utilising the latest research from a multi-disciplinary perspective.

The Adoption Act 2002 and the White Paper offer a window of opportunity but is it working in practice? What can be done to optimize the support available?

The adoption support planning will be explored from a policy, practice, legal and funding perspective, taking post-code and commissioning factors into account.

The course is aimed at all professionals and families seeking to optimise the long term health and well-being of young people currently being placed for adoption.

BIOGRAPHIES

Hedi Argent, Independent Adoption Consultant, Trainer and Freelance Writer. Hedi chairs disruption meetings for the BAAF Southern Region. She is the author of *Find me a Family* (Souvenir Press, 1984), *Whatever Happened to Adam?* (BAAF, 1998), *Related by Adoption* (BAAF, 2004), *One of the Family* (BAAF, 2005), *Ten Top Tips for Placing Children* (BAAF 2006), the coauthor of *Taking Extra Care* (BAAF, 1997) and the editor of *Keeping the Doors Open* (BAAF, 1988), *See you Soon* (BAAF, 1995), *Staying Connected* (BAAF, 2002), *Models of Adoption Support* (BAAF, 2003). and (with Jeffrey Coleman) *Dealing With Disruption* (BAAF, 2006). She has also contributed four illustrated Booklets to the children's series published by BAAF: *What Happens in Court?* (2003), *What is Contact?* (2004), *What is a Disability?* (2004) and *LifeStory Work* with Shaila Shah.

Edwina Brocklesby – PhD BSc (Econ) CQSW Director, Parents for Children. After 20 years of fostering, adoption, child protection and promotional work of the Children's Act '89 and many years as a guardian, Eddie is now the Director of Parents for Children. Established 30 years ago, Parents for Children is a small unique charity, specialising in finding loving adoptive and foster families for children with exceptional needs – children with profound emotional, learning and physical disabilities.

Monica Duck – Director, Post Adoption Centre. Monica Duck – Director, Post-Adoption Centre. PAC provides a comprehensive range of adoption support services to London and the south-east regions.

With over 20 years' experience of working with children and families within the statutory and voluntary sector, she has considerable experience of adoption and post-adoption work. She has also served on adoption panels, as a member of the government's Adoption and Permanency Taskforce and as a consultant to both voluntary and statutory agencies. Until recently she was Chair of Buckinghamshire's Adoption Support Forum, and she is a member of the research advisory group "Enhancing adoptive parenting" as well as a member of the advisory group for 'Pathways to permanence for children of Black, Asian and mixed parentage; dilemmas, decision-making and outcomes'. She is also in training as an attachment based psychoanalytical psychotherapist.

Dr Mary Mather – FRCP, FRCPCH, Consultant Community Paediatrician. Dr Mary Mather has been a Consultant Community Paediatrician since 1993. She is the Chair of BAAF's Health Advisory Group, the Medical Adviser to the Bexley Adoption and Fostering Panel and medical consultant for Parents for Children. She was a member of the Department of Health Reference Group overseeing the implementation of 'Quality Protects'. She is a member of the Editorial Board of *Archives of Disease in Childhood* and the peer review panel for the journal, *Adoption & Fostering*.

She is the author of *Doctors for Children in Public Care*, a textbook for medical advisers working in adoption and fostering. She has published work on the health of children being presented to adoption panels and the need to reduce delay in order to protect their physical and mental health. She has also published work on the statutory medical examination and the need to replace this formal system with a more flexible and holistic approach, which recognises the stigma attached to growing up in care and the consequences for health outcomes. She has been extensively involved in both local and national training of medical advisers.

Linda Plummer – Post Adoption Social Worker, Parents for Children. Linda Plummer is an independent social worker, with many years experience in Local Authority and Voluntary sector adoption agencies, holding managerial, advisory and practitioner posts. She has a special interest in Birth Records Counselling and the provision of Intermediary Services.

To book a place on this conference contact Charlotte Lindsell on 020 7520 2880 or by E-mail at charlotte@parentsforchildren.org.uk www.parentsforchildren.org.uk 17/10/07

VENUE MAP & TRAVEL INFORMATION

Bankside House
24 Sumner Street
London
SE1 9JA
Tel: 020 7107 5750

Bankside House is in Central London, on the historic south bank of the Thames, near the Globe Theatre and the Tate Modern.

 **Nearest Tubes to Bankside:** London Bridge, Southwark, Borough.

Bankside House is approximately ten to fifteen minutes walk from mainline National Rail stations and tube stations.



On Arrival at Bankside House

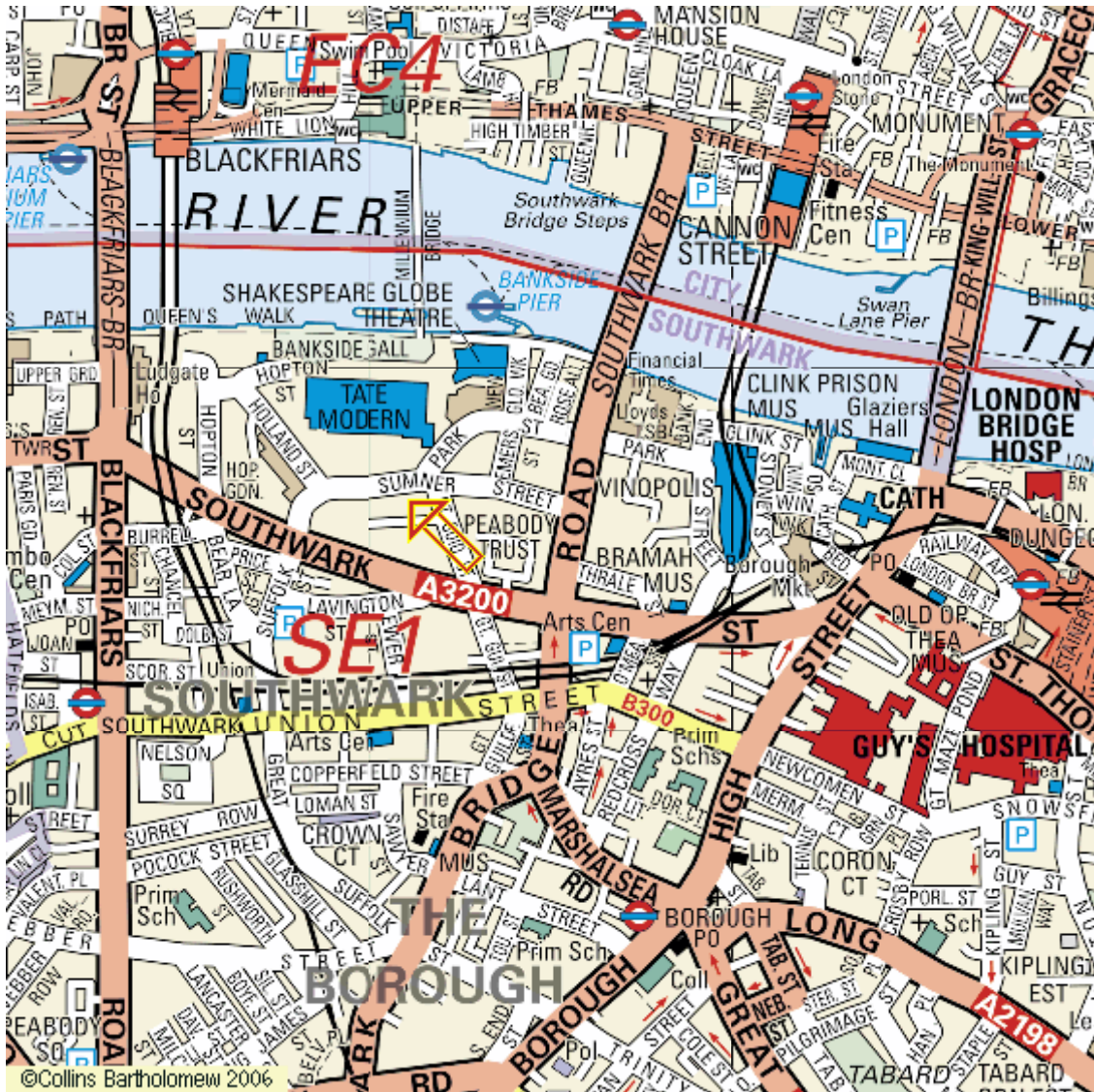
When you arrive at Bankside House, please go up in the lift to the 8th floor to the 'Auditorium and Balcony' rooms. Conference registration will be in the Balcony Room, commencing at 8.45am.

Location Maps



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LOCATION MAP



See: www.streetmap.co.uk

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