

Attachment Aware Schools Training

Below you will find our current 'Attachment Aware Schools' training offer, which is provided via our Educational Psychology team [contact Lynn Knight: 01782 233947 or lynn.knight@stoke.gov.uk].

Attachment Aware training will help staff to support children who have experienced trauma and have unmet attachment needs – research suggests this is 40% of the school community. Unmet attachment needs and trauma affects learning and behaviour, causing children to be more liable to be in a state of 'fight, flight or freeze.'

We have excellent feedback from our training. We are a lead partner in national research and small-scale, initial results show improved attendance, attainment and reduced behavioural incidents where schools implement attachment aware strategies¹. Schools that want to take this work further can now join 'ARC' - <https://the-arc.org.uk>

The 2015 NICE guideline on attachment reinforces the importance of training for all staff:

'Schools and other education providers should ensure that all staff who may come into contact with children and young people with attachment difficulties receive appropriate training on attachment difficulties.'

Training would help evidence a school's work to support individuals:

'Inspection tests the school's or provider's response to individual needs by observing how well it helps all children and learners to make progress and fulfil their potential.' Ofsted Framework 2015

Inspectors evaluate the experience of particular individuals and groups, such as...looked after children, those with ... mental health needs. Inspectors must look at a small sample of case studies about the experience of these pupils.' Ofsted Handbook 2015

'Professionals who work with children and young people are trained in child development and mental health, and understand what can be done to provide help and support for those who need it.' Future in Mind Executive Summary 2015

Each half day's training costs £500 for up to 100 participants. Schools may wish to work in partnership. Bespoke events can also be arranged. We advise a school to do the 'Attachment Aware Schools' audit and discuss the training with their EP as a starting point.

£500 per term to provide training and support from the EP can come via Pupil Premium claimed from the Virtual School to support a child in care's PEP targets. For example:

'train staff to understand and respond to X's attachment needs, so that X can meet target grades and improve behaviour [reduce exclusion by 20%] and attendance by 5%'.

I look forward to continuing to work with you on Attachment Aware Schools.

Regards

Tony Clifford

¹ <http://www.stokevirtualschool.org.uk/attachment-aware-schools>

Attachment Aware Schools Training

Booking: email: Lynn.knight@stoke.gov.uk or ring 01782 234700.

Support: Training should be supported by SLT and we need to be aware that discussing trauma and unmet attachment needs can be upsetting for staff. Proper preparation is needed so we advise all schools to complete the 'Attachment Aware Schools audit and discuss training with their Educational Psychologist as a first step.

Costs: Each half day's training costs £500 for up to 100 participants. Schools may wish to work in partnership. Bespoke events can also be arranged.

Funding: £500 per term to provide training and support from the EP can come via Pupil Premium claimed from the Virtual School to support a child in care's PEP targets. For example:

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Training offer
Consultancy with SLT: this is an opportunity to find out about our training offer: discuss your school's needs and may include doing the audit – below – as a team exercise, after which we can help design your training plan.
Attachment Aware Settings Audit [see: http://www.stokevirtualschool.org.uk/attachment-aware] Done by the education setting to focus discussions about what training may be needed. You may wish to do this with your EP or discuss outcomes with your EP. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Early Years team can help EYFS settings.• If other schools or settings need help with the audit, please either speak to your EP or contact the Virtual School via Anne-Marie.McBlain@stoke.gov.uk
Attachment Trauma and Recovery – awareness of the impact of trauma on development. Emotion Coaching Training – an accessible, high empathy, high guidance approach, focusing on teacher support and self-management. Between two hours and a day depending on specific requirements of the setting. <i>£500 half day for up to 100; £1000 full day for up to 100 – funded via Pupil Premium request linked to SMART targets for a Child in Care. School pays £1 per delegate over the first 100</i>
For Early Years and those working directly with parents of younger children Child development, attachment, trauma, Emotion Coaching and Five to Thrive Between two hours and a day depending on specific requirements of the setting. <i>Centrally funded by Pupil Premium if event is for 30+ staff [settings will need to work together and find venue]</i>
Embedding best practice: <i>Additional bespoke and more in depth training. This will include joining ARC, designing action research</i> <i>Funded by school, please discuss with the Virtual School: Anne-Marie.McBlain@stoke.gov.uk</i>
Follow up consultation with EP [wherever possible multi-agency] for staff to work through AAS and EC training focusing on applicability for specific children to embed the learning in practice. <i>£ depending on hours required – may be funded via Pupil Premium request linked to PEP SMART targets</i>

Join ARC [Attachment Research Community] – <https://the-arc.org.uk>

The ARC is a membership organisation for those who work with children with unmet attachment needs and trauma.

The ARC is committed to sharing nationally developing best practice and building a research evidence base to establish what works and why in helping with unmet attachment needs to thrive.

Pupil Premium can pay for membership and your EP can help you plan how to get the best value out of it.

Being an ARC member demonstrates your commitment to

1. Promoting inclusion and preventing exclusion
2. Developing effective strategies to support adults and children
3. Promoting high quality training
4. Sharing action research

You can find more information on:

Virtual School website: <http://www.stokevirtualschool.org.uk/attachment-aware>