



## Adolescent risk; Child Sexual Exploitation; Children who go missing: How Research in Practice can help

Research in Practice (RiP) is a registered charity, producing clear, accessible information and resources to support leaders, managers and practitioners in the design and delivery of effective children's care and support services.

RiP supports evidence-informed practice; where the views of people who use services, the expertise of social care professionals and the most relevant academic research all inform the way services are delivered.

### Learning Packages for Children's Residential Care Homes

#### Our connected learning:

- > **Publications:** a range of resources addressing key issues for residential children's homes in hard copy or online formats.
- > **Workshops:** designed to support the transfer of learning into everyday practice.
- > **Learning support packages:** topic power points/recordings/webinars with accompanying resources and tools to enable you to deliver the training you need when you need it – work around staff shift patterns and school times.







Publications and workshops can be purchased individually or in connected learning bundles. All of these resources bring together relevant evidence on key issues to enable effective practice.

**Membership:** We work with over 75 Local Authorities, National Charities (Barnardo's, NSPCC, Action for Children) and The Independent Children's Homes Association. Our membership offer includes publications, events, workshops, webinars, conferences, bespoke training and evaluation, online resources and bulletins signposting to the latest research and practice information.


If you are interested in finding out more about our membership (either as an individual home or consortium of homes), purchasing resources, commissioning any of the workshops or accessing the online briefings, please contact Vicki Giles using the details below.


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## Working with Adolescents


-  **Research Messages Workshop** **That Difficult Age: Developing a more effective response to risk in adolescence** This one-day or two-day programme draws on the findings from our [Open Access Evidence Scope](#) on this topic, looking at the serious and negative risks that face some adolescents in the UK today and considers how these themes can inform a distinctive adolescent-centred approach to protection, prevention and the promotion of adolescent resilience.
-  **Strategic Briefing** **Risk-taking adolescents and child protection** This briefing is intended to support strategic managers, frontline teams and practitioners. It begins by looking at the concept of 'risk-taking' and goes on to outline some recent research on developmental aspects of adolescence. (£13+vat)
-  **Frontline Briefing** **NEW: Adolescent mental health** Published: Dec 2015  
The Health Select Committee's report *Children's and adolescents' mental health and CAMHS (2014)* and the work of the Mental Health Taskforce endorse the importance of early intervention and timely support for young people. This briefing examines how early maltreatment may impact on the mental health of adolescents; as well as providing a range of practical approaches to support mental health and well-being. (£12)
-  **Research Messages Workshop** **Adolescent mental health** This workshop focuses on practice with adolescents with multiple problems across many domains of life who may be classified as 'hard to reach' by conventional clinic-based services. The workshop explores the impacts of trauma, neglect and abuse on mental health, supports understanding of the long-term impacts of previous harm and includes a 'jargon-lite' account of the latest science on what is happening in the adolescent brain. The aim is to provide attendees with some practical and evidence-informed ideas on what to do, and build confidence to do this.
-  **Research Messages Workshop** **Building reflective practice - Using mentalisation theory in effective direct work** Relationships and communication are essential elements of direct work and the knowledge and skills statements for child and family social work emphasise the importance of theory underpinning direct work. This workshop uses experiential learning to support participants to understand and use the concept of mentalisation in practice. Mentalisation - the ability to think about behaviour (one's own and other people's) in terms of underlying mental states - is a fundamental tool to help engage families in the process of change, support emotional resilience in practitioners and enable relationship-based working with children, young people, parents and carers.
-  **Research Messages Workshop** **Working with resistant and challenging service-users** This one-day workshop reviews findings from research and SCRs, and explores how hostile or non-compliant behaviours present, and considers the possible reasons behind such behaviours. It looks at the challenges in assessing such service-users and in working together across agencies; and introduces different strategies for dealing with resistance and/or disguised compliance.
-  **Frontline Briefing** **Understanding adolescence (Briefing)** This briefing outlines some of the key areas of development applying to adolescence - physical development, the role of the family, identity, peer relationships, health and risk and resilience. (£12)
-  **Frontline Briefing** **Understanding adolescence (Tool)** This concise reference chart highlights the wide range of transitions adolescents go through, as well as their reflective behaviours. It should be used in conjunction with the main frontline briefing of the same name as an aid and reminder of the issues outlined in greater detail within that resource. (£4)
-  **Strategic Briefing** **Measuring the wellbeing of looked after children - current approaches and future recommendations** This briefing sets out a range of approaches to measuring and evaluating wellbeing and mental health outcomes for looked after children. It contains practical advice for using existing datasets to monitor the wellbeing of the looked after population and proposes additional tools, measures and methods to improve our understanding of the impact of services and interventions on children's wellbeing and mental health. (£10)


## Missing from Care and Child Sexual Exploitation


 **Research Message Workshop** **Young people and sexual exploitation** This workshop explores the research messages and practical approaches to identification and response to sexual exploitation. The session will explore the characteristics and contexts associated with sexual exploitation and provide examples of good practice in developing service responses. It will also explore the role of early intervention and consider known indicators relevant to assessing risk in order to most effectively support young people.

 **Strategic Briefing** **Children and young people missing from care and vulnerable to sexual exploitation** This briefing, aimed at commissioners and managers, provides an overview of research messages on children missing from care and vulnerable to sexual exploitation. It covers characteristics and risk factors, strategic responses, service planning, specialist services and frontline practice issues. There is a sexual exploitation warning signs and vulnerabilities checklist. (£13)


 **Performance Pointer** **Children missing from home or care** This briefing, aimed at commissioners and managers, examines how the combination of good local data and key research messages can help to improve local service provision around children who go missing from home or care. It includes examples of promising practice across assessing risk, preventative and crisis support and returning home. (£10)


 **Evidence scopes** **NEW Open access: Working effectively to address Child Sexual Exploitation** Published: Nov 2015. This open access evidence scope draws on knowledge from research, practitioner expertise and young people's experience to identify the barriers to dealing with CSE, and the approaches and interventions that can make a difference to young people.

 **Frontline Briefing** **Young person-centred approaches in CSE - promoting participation and building self-efficacy (Briefing)** This briefing builds on the findings and recommendations for effective service design and practice development highlighted within our Working effectively to address Child Sexual Exploitation: Evidence Scope (2015). It explores how to work with risk and the perceived 'choices' of young people affected by child sexual exploitation, in order to build resilience, self-efficacy and involve young people in decision-making about their care. (£12+vat)

 **Frontline Tool** **Young person-centred approaches in CSE - promoting participation and building self-efficacy (Tool)** This tool accompanies the above briefing. It is a checklist tool containing a set of questions and prompts to use when planning group-based participatory activities with young people affected by child sexual exploitation. (£4+vat)





## Harmful Sexual Behaviour

 **Research Messages Workshop** **Children and young people with harmful sexual behaviours** This one-day workshop explores the latest research messages on harmful sexual behaviours (HSB) drawing on our **Research Review** by Professor Simon Hackett. It helps participants to understand the difference between normal, problematic and HSB in children and young people, and participants learn about the causes and prevalence of HSB and the main approaches to assessment and interventions

 **Research Review** **Children And Young People With Harmful Sexual Behaviours** This review on children and young people with harmful sexual behaviours deals with an issue that presents significant challenge to the sector. The findings of the review provide much needed evidence on what we know about effective interventions and the core elements of a good service response. This review will be of particular value for those involved in commissioning and designing services; for anyone working in social care, health, education and criminal justice; and for those involved in professional training and development. (£25)



## Management and Practice Development

-  **Handbook** **Analysis and critical thinking in assessment 2nd Edition**  
Analysis and critical thinking are central to good practice in children's services, whether assessing if a child has additional needs or proceeding with a complex child protection inquiry. The handbook includes key research and practice messages around analysis and critical thinking in assessment. It combines research evidence with the practice experience of agencies to explore how identified barriers to good assessment might be overcome. The focus is on 'thinking in practice' and, above all, on supporting practitioners to be more analytical in their assessments. (£25)
-  **Frontline Briefing** **Confident practice with cultural diversity** Several recent Serious Case Reviews have highlighted the need to challenge subjective stereotypes and assumptions. This briefing focuses on how we can develop confidence in talking about cultural difference and cultural practice with parents, carers, children, young people and the wider community. It provides practical approaches for addressing cultural diversity, including ways of expressing concerns and challenging assumptions without being culturally insensitive. (£12)
-  **Online Briefing** **Promoting resilience in children, young people and families** This briefing aims to identify the processes that can help promote and enhance resilience in children, young people and their families, and suggest some evidence-informed interventions that staff working in children's services can utilise. Hard-copy Chart available. (£12+vat)
-  **Evidence Review** **NEW The Voice of the Child** Published: Dec 2015. The lived experiences of children, young people and families are a core element of the evidence base that must inform our work, alongside research and practice expertise. Research demonstrates how vital it is to build upon meaningful direct engagement in case work to involve children and young people in decision-making and service design. The chapters in this review engage with the challenges and opportunities for building rights-based and relationship-based provision with children and young people. (£25)
-  **Learning Module** **Middle Leaders' Development Programme (two day programme)** Positive leadership behaviours enable high quality frontline practice and can support the retention of a stable, skilled workforce. This two-day course particularly focuses on developing resilient practitioners and teams.  
Workshop aims include:  
  - > Understand the difference between being a manager and being a leader, and what behaviours and information are required to be a successful leader
  - > Know how different types of organisations and their components affect effective leadership
  - > Identify and manage the impact of internal and external factors, and stakeholders
  - > Explore how good leadership skills can be applied in practice within today's children's sector.
-  **Practice Tools and Guides** **Organisational Audit for Evidence-Informed Practice**  
This audit tool helps organisations to benchmark how far evidence-informed practice is embedded in their organisation, create an effective action plan and monitor change. It covers leadership, organisational culture, building capacity and sharing learning. (£2)