

# Promoting Contact Course

('Relationships are motivated and shaped by our past experiences')

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

COURSE DESIGNED BY: ASTELL EVANS (2008)

# Aims

- ▶ To look at the implications of legislation and national standards for foster carers in promoting and facilitating contact for children and young people in care
- ▶ To identify the issues of contact between children/ young people in care and their birth families
- ▶ To examine the impact contact can have on: foster carers or residential care staff

# Objectives

- ▶ Be introduced issues related to supporting children and young people to identify their own contact and relationship needs
- ▶ Have been given the opportunity to take part in group discussions about ways to work with children and young people to maintain appropriate contact and relationships with people that are significant to them
- ▶ Explore strategies to support children and young people to develop appropriate and supportive relationships
- ▶ Discussed appropriate issues linked with: National Fostering Standards & Regulations (2011) **and TSD Standards (2.3 a + b)**

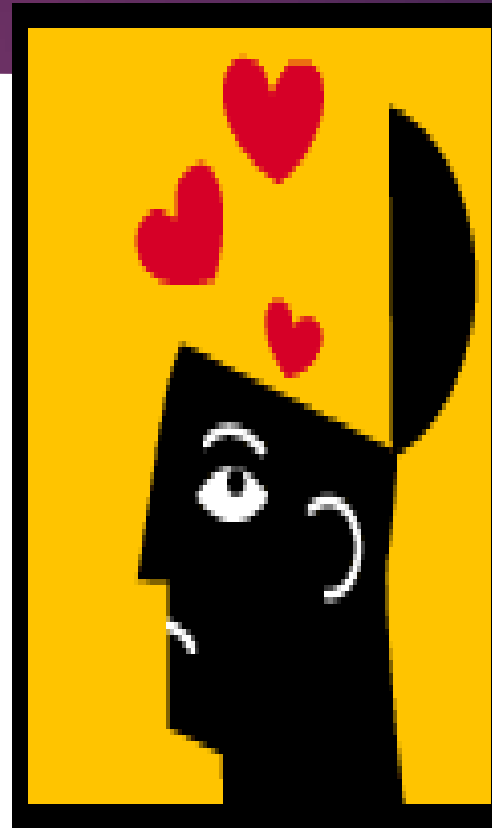
- ▶ The course makes leadership and management reference links with issues around managing a provision of care services that supports parents, families, carers and significant events.
- ▶ It also makes links with managers' abilities to manage provisions that promotes development through engagement relationship-based, child-centred practice



# Scope

EMPT  
Evans Management &  
Professional Training

- ▶ This workshop will not cover every aspect of contact and the resulting issues. However it will help you to understand what is involved in contact as well as the roles and responsibilities of foster carers and or Residential care staff.



## Children Act (1989) - Sections: sch2, paragraph 15(1) Duty to promote contact

A clear duty to seek out, create and maintain (for all children looked after) relationships with:

- ▶ parents
- ▶ (includes non-married fathers without parental responsibility who may be living elsewhere)
- ▶ other people with parental responsibility
- ▶ Friends
- ▶ others connected with the child

## Schedule 8, Contact Orders

- ▶ Available to any child not in compulsory Care
- ▶ Could be used in relation to a child in accommodation

# TSD Standards

- ▶ 2.3: Relationship with parents and others
- ▶ 2.3a: Understand the importance of families and friends for children and young people
- ▶ 2.3b: Demonstrate how you involve families and others in the lives of children and young people and the important role of foster carers in helping a child maintain contact