






# Relational Practice Conference

## Monday 4 December

9am–4pm, Mercure Hotel, Forge Gate, Telford Centre, Shropshire, TF3 4NA

TIME	SESSION
9.30am-10am	<p><b>Welcome from:</b></p> <p>Councillor Paul Watling, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Systems Toni Casamenti, Department of Education (Family Hubs and Early Years Interventions Division) Jo Britton, Executive Director for Children’s and Family Services</p>
10am-10.45am	<p><b>Children’s experience of parents conflict and how it can help us make changes and why it matters: Keynote Speaker – Honor Rhodes from Tavistock Relationships</b></p>  <p>Honor trained as a social worker and has worked in both statutory and voluntary sector settings. At Tavistock Relationships she is responsible for the DWP funded Parents as Partners co-parenting group work programme, partnership developments and policy development work. Honor’s particular interest is in effective interventions with families in trouble. She has written a series of short guides for practitioners including, ‘A short guide to working with co-parents: why we don’t, why we should and how we could’ (Tavistock Relationships 2011). Honor sits on a number of Boards including her local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group Board and the Early Intervention Foundation. She was awarded an OBE in July 2010 for her work with children and families.</p>
10.45am-11.30am	<p><b>Launching Parent-Infant Relationship: Keynote Speaker – Dr Lisa Marsland from Building Bonds</b></p>  <p>Dr. Lisa Marsland is the Service Lead for Building Bonds and an NHS Parent Infant Mental Health Service. Lisa is a leading expert and specialist in the field of Attachment, Relationships, Early Intervention, Parent Infant Mental Health and supporting Looked After Children and vulnerable families in the community. Lisa’s Mantra is “Relationships are Everything!”. Lisa and her team are 100% dedicated to the cause of supporting families to build good secure bonds, attachment relationships and mental health via an ‘easy to engage’ relationship-based service which can families during their times of need. In addition to her clinical and strategic work, Lisa is passionate about highlighting the significant need for this support/provision for families and the huge gaps in service provision, training, knowledge and capacity in the field.</p> <p>Lisa and the rest of the Building Bonds team offer specialist, therapeutic support to families, professionals and organisations across the UK who are interested and invested in working preventatively alongside us to build bonds and break cycles.</p>

TIME	SESSION
<b>Break: Tea/Coffee</b>	
11.45am-12.45pm	<p><b>There are a choice of three workshops. With a maximum of 50 spaces on each. Please choose on the day which workshop you would like to attend.</b></p> <p><b>Workshop 1a: First-hand experience of coming across from Ghana to the UK as 13-14 year old:- Kubby Agyemang</b></p> <p>The impact of the cultural differences, language barriers and transitioning in education Our family's difficulties from a parent's relationship breakdown to becoming homeless. Supporting my mum as a single mum with complex health and mental health condition. Important for Professionals to know about their families or try to learn about cultures before meeting families. Try and keep an open mind and allow time to build trust with families in efforts to support families.</p> <p><b>Workshop 1b: Relationship rupture repair – Honor Rhodes from Tavistock Relationships</b></p> <p>Honor will be delivering a workshop about talking: “So, how you two are getting on at the moment?” and how to use tools and measures to support relationship quality conversation.</p> <p><b>Workshop 1c: Parent/infant relationship Dr Lisa Marsland from Building Bonds</b></p> <p>Dr Lisa Marsland will be delivering a workshop on the Parent Infant Mental Health (PIMH) work and services she is leading across Merseyside, which support the most vulnerable parents and infants to build good bonds, attachment relationships, break cycles of ACES &amp; prevent infants being removed/separated from parents' care.</p>
<b>12.45pm-1.30pm: Lunch</b>	
1.30pm-2.15pm	<p><b>Child's Voice: Keynote Speaker –Scott King from Section 31 Training</b></p>  <p>Scott King is a 33 year old previously looked after child, He was taken into care when he was 6 months old along with his brother who was 3 at the time. After a failed adoption Scott went on to have a roller coaster journey consisting of 36 placement moves 2 of which were in residential care. Scott's traumas were compounded whilst in care as he suffered many let downs, a split from his brother at age 7 and even abuse from foster carers. Scott officially stopped receiving services at 21 and since he left care he has dedicated his life to educating foster carers and social care professionals around the importance of stable placements and the deep traumas that are cause by multiple moves. Scott has been involved in a range of change making movements and now runs his own training company, Section 31 Training. Scott is a passionate advocate for looked after children and care leavers with his main goal being to reduce the amount of moves children are subject to in the care system by providing care providers and caregivers with a new level of understanding and new ways of thinking. Scott has worked within this system ever since he left care in various different roles including residential key working, advocacy, mentoring, parliamentary advisory work, children's champion and youth work. Scott is also a proud member of The Care Leaders, a group of 14 Care experienced individuals working nationally to improve the care system.</p>

TIME	SESSION
<p><b>2.15pm-3.15pm</b></p>	<p>There are a choice of three workshops. With a maximum of 50 spaces on each. Please choose on the day which workshop you would like to attend.</p> <p><b>Workshop 2a: Communicating Positive Relationships – Scott King from Section 31 Training</b></p> <p>Scott King will share more of his care experiences looking at how love and care can be communicated through positive relationships. The workshop aims to look at interactions between adults and children considering the impact of words and actions on a child’s feelings and sense of self and how better responses can lead to long lasting positive relationships.</p> <p><b>Workshop 2b: Relationships with Dads – Louise Spragg, Principal Social Worker within Children’s Services and Dan Machin, Social Worker and systemic clinical psychotherapist within children’s services</b></p> <p>This session aims to explore how we work alongside fathers utilising lenses of systemic, trauma informed practice and messages from research, with practitioners reflecting on how we can strengthen working alongside fathers from relational lenses.</p> <p><b>Workshop 2c: The Power of Connection – Nikita Fernandez from MIND</b></p> <p>Join Nikita for an hour to explore the ‘The Power of Connection’ and understand how connection can positively impact children and their families. The interactive workshop will equip you to better support individuals to be the best parent they can be. You will be encouraged to understand children in their world, how to connect with them, bring awareness to things that don’t promote connection and we will finish with developing our connection with ourselves</p>
<p><b>3.20pm-3.45pm</b></p>	<p><b>Closing Ceremony:</b></p> <p>Darren Knibbs, Director for Children’s Safeguarding and Family Support</p>

**To register for this conference please email the address below to secure your place**

Telfordfamilyhubs@telford.gov.uk

(Please note there is a limited number of places – so book early to avoid disappointment)