

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY



institute of
public care

The principles of arranging and managing adoption support services and therapies

OBU Course Code: WFPC4001

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Institute of Public Care

- Part of Oxford Brookes University
- We work with central and local government, the NHS, charities and commercial organisations
- Our aim is to make a positive impact on people's health and wellbeing

What we do



Evaluation



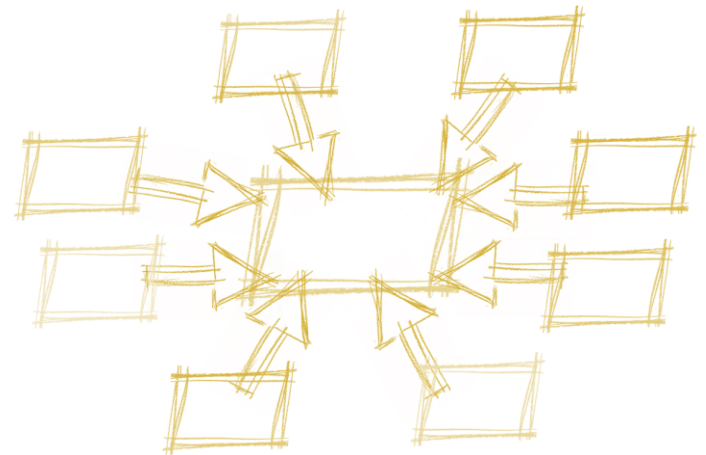
Training



Consultancy

About this course

The aim of this course is to provide an **introductory overview** of the principles of arranging and managing adoption support services and therapies. By sharing **tools and techniques**, the aim is to help you **improve outcomes** and secure **better quality** and **value** for adopted young people and families, and **improve relationships** with providers and other partners responsible for delivery of individual level adoption support.



Our approach

- 6 half day sessions to introduce the principles of good practice arranging and managing adoption support services and therapies with external providers.
- Content is based on the IPC Commissioning Cycle and our popular and well-established commissioning courses – which include a focus on arranging individual support services.
- Each session will include an introduction from areas of the individual commissioning cycle quadrants (assess, plan, intervene, review), coupled with facilitated discussions / break out groups.

IPC Commissioning Cycle



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Sessions 1 and 2

Session 1 – Introduction & Assessing needs (1st & 2nd July)

- What is individual commissioning, and how is this linked with arranging adoption support services?
- Consideration of the current national and local context for adoption support services
- Assessing needs
- Arranging outcome-based adoption support
- Optional accreditation

Session 2 – Planning and intervening (16th & 17th July)

- Understanding the local therapies offer / provider market
- Negotiating the cost / offer of adoption support services
- Working with Providers of therapy and support
- Introduction to commissioning frameworks and procurement rules for adoption support and therapies

Session 3

Session 3 – Reviewing and personalisation (22nd & 23rd July)

- Outcomes Based & Performance Monitoring
- Contract Management
- Working with children and families to keep them at the centre of adoption support arrangements

By the end of the sessions, you will:

- Have evolved your knowledge and understanding of the different stages and activities involved in effective arranging and managing of adoption support services and therapies
- Be able to demonstrate understanding of the principles of good commissioning on an individual basis, and how this can help inform wider strategic commissioning arrangements

Accreditation

- An opportunity to gain a qualification of your learning
- Accredited by Oxford Brookes University
- Awarded a Certificate of Credit, at a Level 4, worth 10 Credits

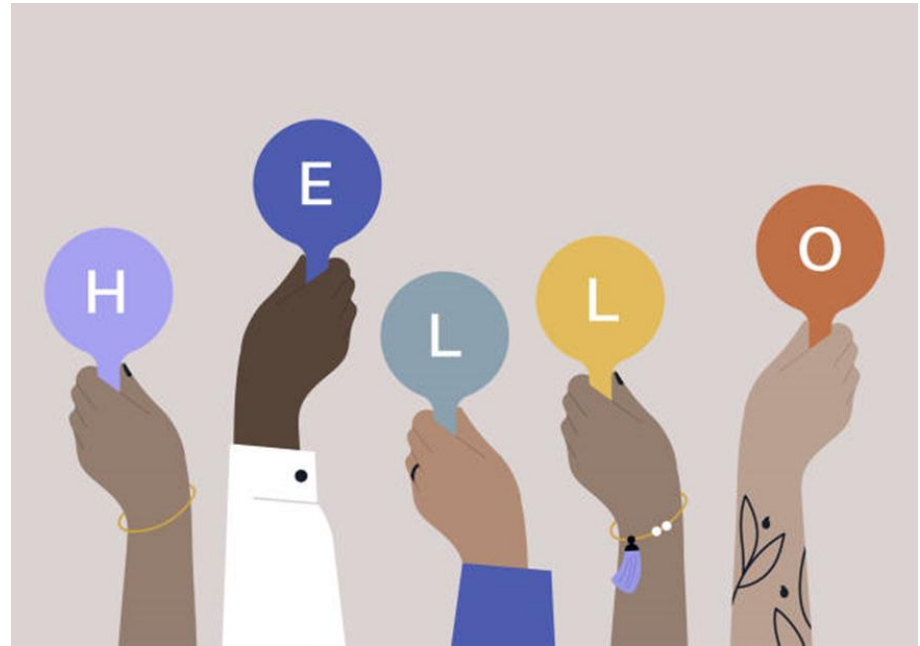
Through the accreditation process you will have an opportunity to:

- Implement good individual commissioning practice to ensure that commissioning activities achieve best value for money and good outcomes for young people and families
- Demonstrate independent learning skills, including reflection on individual learning and practice

More on this later...

Introductions

Time to introduce
yourself...



Before we start...



Group Agreement



What does “arranging and managing adoption support services and therapies” mean to you?

- What does it involve?
- What tasks and activities do you undertake?
- Who do you work with?



What is commissioning?

“Commissioning is the means by which we secure the best value for local citizens and taxpayers i.e. the best possible health and wellbeing outcomes, and health and social care provision, within the resources available.”

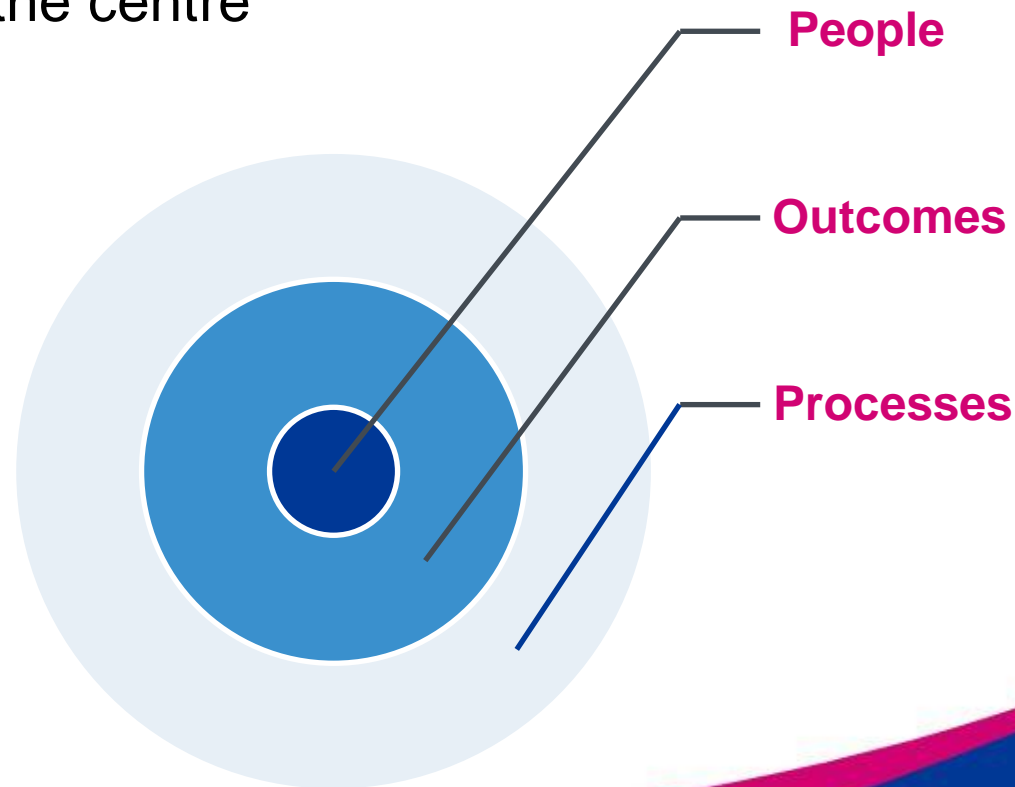
Department of Health

“Commissioning is the process for monitoring, specifying and securing health and care services to meet people’s needs and deliver better outcomes.”

IPC

Core underpinning principles of commissioning

- The model outlines the process
- Our fundamental focus is on outcomes, and putting the person at the centre



Adoption Support Commissioning

Principles

- Decisions based on identified need
- Outcomes driven
- Early intervention & prevention
- Person-centred, flexible & accessible
- Effective use of money
- Effective use of data
- Continuous quality improvement
- Promotes cultural competence
- Collaborative partnerships

Adoption England



Multi-level commissioning

- Commissioning is practised on different levels across all local partners.
- Different services require commissioning at different levels, depending on factors such as population, needs, service volume and price.
- Commissioners are therefore likely to undertake multi-level commissioning i.e. at a mixture of levels to suit the needs of different services and populations.

Possible levels of commissioning

National



Regional



Sub-regional



Place or strategic



Locality or practice



Individual



Commissioning models

- There are a range of commissioning models.
- Ensure all local partners and key stakeholders have a shared vision for commissioning:
 - to promote agreement to and understanding of the commissioning process
 - that the process covers some form of needs analysis and planning, investment against this plan and review of the efficacy of the investment

IPC Commissioning Cycle



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IPC: commissioning for individuals – inner circle

Assess – assessing young person's and family's needs and desired outcomes (and how these might be met), assessment of parenting capacity, wider family and environment, consultation with partners

Plan – considering all support that is available to meets needs / outcomes), development of an adoption support plan.

Intervene – Arranging the therapy / support with a provider / in-house provision, agreeing how you will work together to achieve and monitoring outcomes and quality, approving payment for delivery (if commissioned)

Review –checking if individual outcomes have been met, varying the plan if changes are needed, serving notice and managing exits



The Adoption Support “Family Tree”





Context for adoption support services

- What is the need?
- What is the national legislative and policy context?
- What are the responsibilities of the local authority?
- What is the supply side (market) like?



Spectrum of Support – Stepped Approach



Early Support Model of Practice

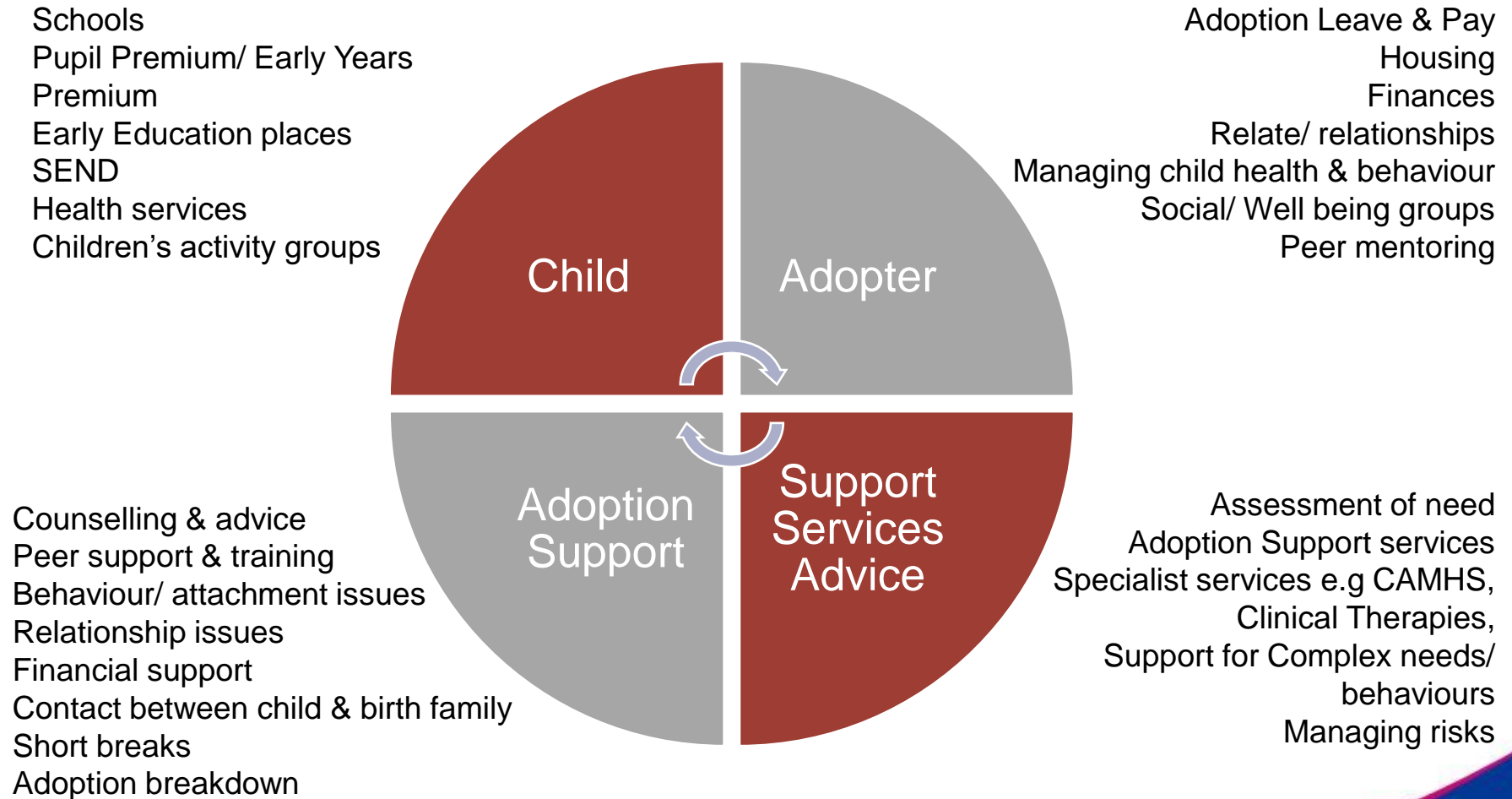
The early support model of practice approach aims to:

- be **preventative** and support the building blocks of parenting in adoption
- enable adoptive parents to start to feel confident and understand what it means to be **therapeutic parents**
- build **resilience** through effective social network and peer support
- be **responsive** to individual needs with access to a wide range of multi-agency support
- offer **consistency** of support across England for families adopting a child from another region

The early support model of practice has supporting resources and guidance for both the family and for the practitioners that are working alongside the family.

<https://adoptionengland.co.uk/professionals/adoption-support>

Core Offer – an example

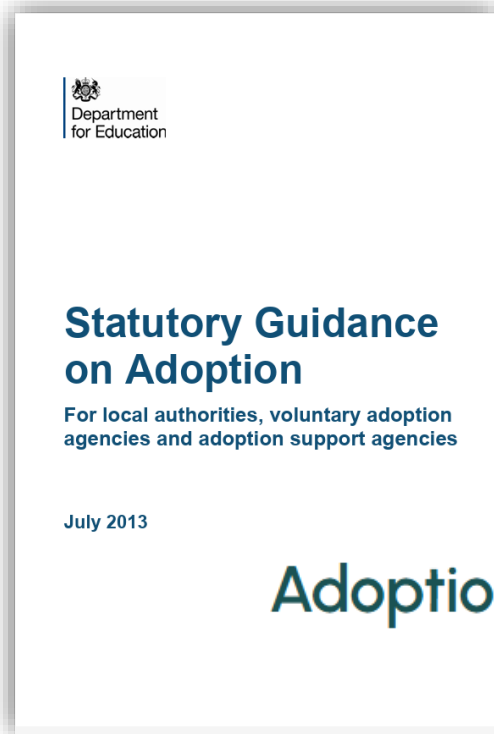


<https://www.first4adoption.org.uk/adoption-support/support-services-advice/the-adoption-passport/>

What support & therapies do you arrange?

- Peer support (adoptive parents or adopted children)
- Parent training
- Creative or physical therapy
- Counselling/ Psychotherapy (adoptive parents or adopted children)
- Family therapy
- Life story work
- Short Breaks
- Others?

National drivers/shapers in adoption support?



Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund



In your areas

In breakout rooms share:

1. What common challenges are you currently experiencing when trying to arrange adoption support services and therapies for your local children / families?
2. Share any experiences of effectively arranging adoption support in your local areas – what are the enablers or success factors when it goes well?
3. Be ready to feedback to the wider group at least 1 challenge and 1 example of good practice

What is a needs analysis?



Needs analysis – what does it involve?

Considering data / intelligence about the needs of locally adopted children and their families over recent years

Understanding the legislation, research and best practice basis for services/interventions

Local strategic context including Pan RAA and RAA priorities, issues and context

Mapping and reviewing current services across agencies; in terms of range, quality and costs



Intelligence will include:

1. National Statistics such as demographic data, risk factors, prevalence and incidence data
2. Local data and information, including recent trends
3. Views of adopted young people and their families
4. Information and performance data of current adoption support services and therapies
5. National Research findings into 'what works' when it comes to adoption support services

Regional Needs Assessments – Key themes

- **Emerging needs** – Children with special educational needs and disabilities, learning difficulties, autism, ADHD, attachment disorders, Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder and ACEs
- **Unmet health and education needs increasing demand on adoption support** - e.g., increased families at crisis point, improvements required to collaborative working with partners

Regional Needs Assessments – key themes

- Families need a **clearer understanding / expectations** of the adoption support offer
- **Increased integration across health and social care is required** to better address the needs of adopted children
- Desire to increase the **Early help** offer
- Availability, commissioning arrangements and costs of therapies **vary region to region**
- **Better evidence and intelligence** is needed to inform strategic plans for adoption support services, as well as support information to families

Assessing individual needs

**SENSORY PROCESSING
ASSESSMENT TRACKER**

TAYC-R
Relationships Matter

**Strengths and Difficulties
Questionnaire (SDQ)**

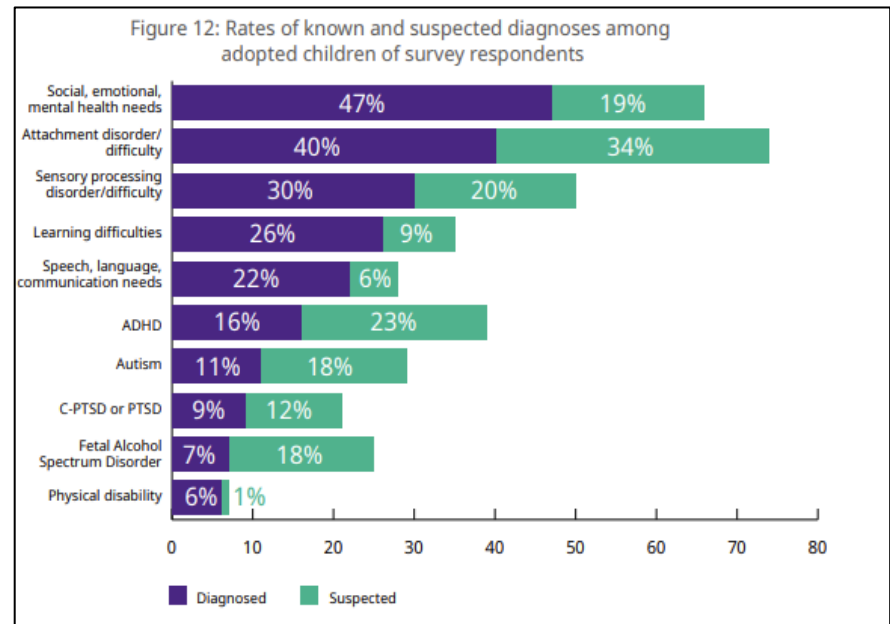
 **One**
Adoption

Adoption Support Assessment Model

Types of needs



“The combination of the impact of early life adversity and trauma, coupled with a high likelihood of complex and overlapping additional needs across several domains can leave families facing significant challenges”



Matching resources to needs



Breakout Discussion



- What do you know about your local adoption support offer for your children / families? – *Consider commissioned, in-house, or the voluntary sector?*
- How well do you use this to match the needs with a therapy offer?
- Could you improve your practice here?

Advice from Adoption England

Graduated approach

Adoption support assessment and plan should identify:

Needs, goals and outcomes

What support is required to meet

How progress will be measured: clear timelines – how will you know it is working?

End date: agreed timeline for actions and end date

Clear roles and responsibilities for social worker, family and provider

Contact us



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