

Are you working with families where parental conflict is a concern?

The reducing parental conflict training programme (RPCP) is part of the Government's commitment to reducing conflict between parents – whether they are together or separated.

What is parental conflict?

Evidence shows that parental conflict puts children's mental health and long-term future life chances at risk, regardless of whether the parents are together or separated, or are biologically related to the child, such as in blended or foster families.

Parental conflict can manifest in different ways from:

- a lack of warmth and emotional distance;
- swearing and shouting aggressively;
- non-verbal conflict or the 'silent treatment';
- lack of respect and emotional control;
- lack of resolution;
- to, in the most extreme form, domestic abuse.

What to do next

All training is now available to book. Please go to [iwight.com/trainingcourses](https://www.iwight.com/trainingcourses) and click on the **safeguarding** link, then the **safeguarding children** link. You can also book through the Isle of Wight Council's learning hub.

Please be aware that there is no link for module one as it is elearning only, however you will receive login details for this when you book the other modules.

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If you have difficulty understanding this document, please contact us on 01983 821000 and we will do our best to help you.

4488NH 10/19 SC



Reducing parental conflict

Professional development opportunity

Sequence of learning

Learners may choose to undertake the training programme by:

- completing the elearning modules;
- attending face-to-face or virtual training modules;
- completing a combination of elearning and face-to-face or virtual learning modules.

Please note, however, module one is available by elearning only. Modules two, three and four are available as elearning, but can be completed by attending half day, face-to-face or virtual training sessions.

Individuals who attend face-to-face or virtual learning will automatically receive login details for all four elearning modules.

It is recommended that frontline staff complete module one, then complete module two and/or three as required.

Managers should complete module one then attend module four.

Module one

This is open to a wide range of participants including front line practitioners, senior leaders, and service designers or commissioners working in a variety of roles within the Isle of Wight local authorities and associated organisations, for whom increased awareness will lead to greater identification of opportunities for early intervention – this is elearning only and log ins will be emailed once another module has been booked.

Module two

This is designed as a skills-based workshop giving opportunities to practise techniques to engage with couples/co-parents in practical situations. Open to a wide range of front line practitioners working with adults, children and families in a variety of roles across the Isle of Wight local authorities and partner organisations.

Module three

This is designed to practice the skills needed to support parents to reach positive outcomes from destructive conflict situations. Open to a wide range of frontline practitioners working with adults, children and families in a variety of roles across the Isle of Wight local authorities and partner organisations.

Module four

This is specifically for those with managerial or supervisory responsibility for front line practitioners who work in a range of organisations across the Isle of Wight. The module is designed as a skills-based workshop exploring the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to support staff to identify, intervene or escalate parental conflict situations they encounter.

Who should attend?

Any professional working with children, young people and families is well placed to be able to spot, intervene and support families, where there is conflict in the relationship of parents whether they are birth parents, step-parents or carers.

Why attend?

Quite simply, for the benefit of vulnerable children and young people whose lives you are helping to improve.

Parental conflict is known to be a risk factor for poor child outcomes, particularly when conflict is frequent, intense and poorly resolved.

This training will give professionals:

- the knowledge to spot the signs of parental conflict;
- the confidence to take action;
- the skills and tools to help parents recognise the impact of their behaviour and teach them how to change.

