

# Higher Education Awards in Child Protection

**Stephen Ward**  
**Bath Spa University**



# National priority

- Laming (2009) *The Protection of Children in England: A progress report*. London: The Stationery Office.
- Working with higher education institutions for improved knowledge and qualifications on safeguarding for those in children's services.



# University mission

- Support the education and welfare of children and young people
- Educate the children's workforce: teachers, EYPS, teaching assistants, carers
- Raise aspirations and widen participation in higher education
- Work with employers
- Contribute to the social justice agenda



**dna** | david niven  
associates



**Bath Spa  
University**



  
**BATH SPA  
UNIVERSITY**

# Working with employers

- Wiltshire County Council Children's Services
- Action for Children
- Foster Care Associates
- Borough of Camden
- Cornwall County Council



# For the Children's Workforce

- Non-graduates
- Early years support staff
- Teaching assistants
- Family support workers
- Care workers



# Modules in a Foundation Degree

- Access to degree-level study
- Inform practice
- Enable critical reflection on practice
- Engage with the critical literature and research on safeguarding



# First module

- Integrated child protection
- Planned with employers
- 32 students currently enrolled



# Aims for the module

- Understand the importance of safeguarding for children
- Recognise the signs and symptoms of child abuse
- Have strategies to support and respond to children where there are concerns
- Understand the legislative framework for child protection



# Assessment for the module

- A written report reflecting on your roles and responsibilities for safeguarding (5000 words)



# Further modules

- Questioning skills for professional outcomes
- Safeguarding disabled children
- Child exploitation and the internet



# Questioning skills

- Plan and prepare for any interview for safeguarding children
- Recognise barriers to communication and so engage and build an effective rapport
- Know how to obtain the most detailed information possible, differentiating between productive and counter-productive questions
- Know how to close an interview, leaving opportunities for future information gain
- Be able to effectively evaluate information obtained



# Safeguarding disabled children

- Understanding a range of disabilities which children experience: physical, social, emotional and intellectual
- Understand risk factors relevant to safeguarding disabled children
- Recognise the indicators and symptoms of abuse
- Be aware of the complexities and dilemmas in safeguarding disabled children
- Be aware of inequalities in access to resources and additional needs in the assessment process
- Have a knowledge of possible barriers to communication



# Child exploitation & the internet

- Understand the nature and impact of internet child abuse on children, offenders and the community
- Understand the legislative framework protecting children
- Be aware of the National Programme of education designed to empower children and young people to use the Internet safely
- Know the strategies to prevent on-line exploitation and bullying and empower children and young people to self-protect
- Be aware of models of abuse as tools for assessing risk
- Know the process of investigation



- 10.00 Welcome and introductions to the new modules**  
Stephen Ward, Dean of the School of Education, Bath Spa University
- 10.30 Internet safety for children**  
Tony Domaille, David Niven Associates
- 11.00 Coffee break**
- 11.15 Safeguarding disabled children**  
Rachael Clawson, Ann Craft Trust
- 11.45 Questioning skills for professionals**  
Tony Domaille, David Niven Associates
- 12.15 Questions to Speakers**
- 12.30 Lunch**
- 1.30 Keynote Speaker**  
Jon Brown, NSPCC
- 2.15 Topic discussion groups each led by the subject speaker**
- A Questioning skills - Tony Domaille (David Niven Associates) *Foyer*
  - B Safeguarding disabled children - Rachael Clawson (Ann Craft Trust) *TN.101*
  - C Internet safeguarding – David Niven (David Niven Associates) *Auditorium*
- 3.00 Digest of the day, questions and the way forward**  
David Niven
- 3.30 Tea and close**

