

# Domestic Abuse

## Understanding and responding to the children and families in your school

10% card payments discount\*  
15% group booking discount\*\*

Monday 16th June 2025

Virtual Masterclass



Facilitated by:

Liz Bates

*Independent Advisor, Trainer and Magistrate*

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## OUTLINE

January 2022 saw children finally being officially recognised in the Domestic Abuse Act as victims in their own right. However, with around a quarter of a million referrals to Social Services every year and over 600 Child Protection referrals a day, there is still so much to be done to support children living with the effects of this harm.

As schools we have a huge part to play. This masterclass looks at how we continue to further our understanding of Domestic Abuse; explores ways to support children and families; considers how we ensure our settings are places which can enhance the development of any child whose world does not feel safe.

*I want the government  
to call the police for Paul.  
Let the police have a word with  
Paul and send him in Prison  
he get stronger and stronger  
and he might fight my  
mum and my mum  
might die*

*Boy aged 5*

The experience of a 5-year-old boy which will stay with him for the rest of his life. A child who will be attending school, maybe your school, as a 5-year-old, 10-year-old, 13-year-old, 17 year old. A child whose behaviour may be inexplicable. A child who may be unnoticed. With a parent who may be hard to reach, who does not engage. Without fully exploring domestic abuse and its effects, without taking the time to reflect on how this may impact the children and families in our settings, we cannot be fully cognisant of our roles as trusted adults with a duty of care for every child.

This masterclass will provide you with time and opportunities to further your learning, discuss, reflect and share. We will look at both the big picture and also specific responses. We will consider how traumatic events in a child's life will have a significant effect but may look different in every case. There will be time to look at what you may have on your curriculum and plan what else might be needed.

## KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This masterclass will enable you to:

- Feel confident in your understanding of Domestic Abuse
- Share your knowledge and understanding with colleagues
- Ensure your Safeguarding Policy shows an awareness of Domestic Abuse and its effects on children
- Consider the support you can provide in your setting
- Further support disclosure
- See Domestic Abuse within the wider context of Violence Against Women and Girls; Consent; Relationships Education; and more

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## PROGRAMME

09.55 **REGISTRATION** 13.15

10.00 **Introductions and objectives for the day**  
**Domestic Abuse - what do we mean?**

- Definitions
- The Law
- Statistics
- Voices
- Separation
- Child/Parent Abuse

11.15 *Comfort Break and Virtual Networking*

11.30 **Impact on Children & Families**

- 'Behind Closed Doors'
- Effects - what does trauma feel like, look like, sound like?
- The child in the middle
- Attachment
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Reflection

12.15 **Safeguarding**

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Disclosure

12.45 **Lunch Break and Virtual Networking**

## FACILITATED BY

After working in schools for over 25 years, as a teacher and senior leader, Liz then worked as an advisor for Birmingham Local Authority and later with an educational charity for 10 years. As well as leading on Mental Health, Emotional Health and Wellbeing, Liz advised schools and other organisations in all aspects of Safeguarding.

Liz now works as an independent advisor working with schools and other organisations in a number of ways such as training staff and auditing wellbeing. She has delivered presentations, workshops and research findings at national conferences. Liz is the author of 8 books, teaching sets and resources that are used across the country and internationally by schools and by other professionals working with children and has written for a number of professional journals such as 'The Psychologist'. Liz has worked for the Anna Freud Centre and also works as a Wellbeing Award advisor and verifier for Optimus Education and is a Protective Behaviours practitioner, trainer and assessor. Liz also sits as a Magistrate in the Family Court.

## The school responses

- Supporting children and young people
- Staff training
- Primary, secondary and tertiary prevention
- The curriculum
- 'Something has happened' and the right to feel safe
- Being a trusted adult

## The wider context

- Violence Against Women and Girls
- Consent
- Healthy relationships
- Emotional health and wellbeing

## Open Forum and Moving Forward

Close

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Download

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#### Venue

This is a virtual conference, with private login details to further online resources and interactive content. Log in details will be sent one week before the event.

#### Date

☐ Monday 16th June 2025

#### Virtual Fee

£295 + VAT (£354.00)

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