Merton Training modules 2016 to support Common and Shared Assessment (CASA) and Team Around the Child/Family (TAC/TAF) implementation:

- Enhancing analysis and critical thinking in assessment (Meeting OFSTED standards) (Course Code for on-line registration: BA7)

- Using MWBM (Merton Well Being Model) Additional Needs Indicators to identify risk, need & protective factors for appropriate interventions with children & families (Course Code for on-line registration: BA8)

- Enhancing Engagement Skills with Families (Course Code for on-line registration: BA9)
In response to feedback, further supportive dedicated training has been commissioned on skills and techniques for engaging with families; for identifying and responding to additional needs; for drawing conclusions from information gathered in assessments, and agreeing effective action plans – always with the ultimate aim of achieving improved outcomes for the child, young person and their families.

**Enhancing analysis and critical thinking in assessment** *(Meeting OFSTED Standards) (Course Code: BA7)*

- Identifying strengths, needs & risk factors within the key domains of assessment: child development, parent and carers, family and environment.
- Developing critical thinking skills involving both analytical & intuitive reasoning.
- Understanding the importance of practitioner bias.
- Ensuring all information recorded is inclusive.
- Recording fact versus professional based judgment within the assessment.
- Identifying degrees of vulnerability; balancing risk against resilience, strengths and protective factors.
- Empowering the child, young person and/or family to significantly contribute to solution focused action plan within CASA/TAC/TAF process.
- Ensuring that SMART outcome based action plans are effectively translated from the assessment and are jointly reviewed with families at all stages (incorporating the Web of Changes scaling tool).

**Using MWBM (Merton Well Being Model) Additional Needs Indicators to identify risk, need & protective factors for appropriate interventions with children & families (BA8)**

- Feel more confident in using Additional Needs Indicators to help identify appropriate interventions for children & families.
- Understand the importance of assessing Resilience and Protective Factors introducing the Resilience/Vulnerability Matrix to aid analysis.
- Understand how the Merton risk management framework helps to ensure appropriate interventions.
- Understand how the MASH process links to the MWBM.
- Understand evidence based research on how adverse childhood experiences link to poor outcomes later in life.

**Enhancing engagement skills with families** *(Course Code: BA9)*

- Effective engagement – key principles of partnership working.
- Assessing level of family commitment to the engagement process.
- Exploring the benefits of the CASA/TAC/TAF process with families.
- Understanding how motivation impacts on engagement.
- Using a range of solution focused approaches/skills to help effective engagement.
- Using appropriate questioning skills and strategies to help engagement and assessment of strengths/needs, while helping dissolve resistances to initial information gathering.
- Utilising a value ratings cards approach to help identify what is important in families lives and target areas for change.

### 2016-17 Training dates for further CASA-related modules

**Fri 21 June 2016 at Merton Chaucer Centre, Rooms C**

- Enhancing engagement skills with families *(BA9)*
  
  (09:30 – 12:30)

- Enhancing analysis and critical thinking in assessment *(Meeting OFSTED Standards) *(BA7)*
  
  (13.30 – 16.30)

**Mon 19 Sept 2016 at Merton Civic Centre, Committee Rooms D/E**

- Using MWBM *(Merton Well Being Model) Additional Needs Indicators to identify risk, need & protective factors for appropriate interventions with children & families *(BA8)*
  
  (09:30 – 12:30)

- Enhancing engagement skills with families *(BA9)*
  
  (13.30 – 16.30)

The above courses are included in the Merton Safeguarding Children Board *(MSCB)* training programme. Book your place via our online booking form – *course codes indicated above* – www.merton.gov.uk/lscbtraining

If you have any questions please contact: mertonlscb@merton.gov.uk

### Quotes from previous training sessions:

- “Trainer was creative, respectful of participants views / opinions and had a wide range of knowledge on the subject”
- “The strategies talked about will help me to complete CASA’s but will also be useful for day to day assessments I do on families”
- “Has made me realise the need to emphasise the solution-focused aspect of CASA more”
- “Has given me more confidence about engaging with families – particularly solution focused approach”
- “Very good – both practical around CASA and techniques & props for work with young people”
- “Excellent - used different tools, styles that helped”
  “Challenging & thought provoking”