

BRITISH COLUMBIA FOSTER CARE EDUCATION PROGRAM

The new Resource Work Policies (Effective March 1 2017) states,

Policy 8.7: Caregiver Continuing Learning and Education

Caregivers continue to access learning and attend training sessions to improve their caregiving knowledge and skills. Caregivers attend mandatory training sessions within the required time frame, and while they have a Family Care Home Agreement in place

The Procedure for this includes...

Post-Approval Training

- Inform all caregivers who sign a family care home agreement or contract that they must complete the mandatory ministry approved caregiver training within the required time frame...

The British Columbia Foster Care Education Program (BCFCE) is a 53-hour training program that all foster parents in BC must complete. On Vancouver Island, this training is provided by Foster Parent Support Services Society. We are currently offering training in a number of Vancouver Island communities. If you have not yet completed your training, consider registering today for the modules you are able to attend.

All registrations for BCFCE classes on Vancouver Island must be made through the Regional office. It is important that foster parents register early for classes they plan to attend; if minimum registration numbers are not reached prior to classes beginning, classes may be postponed. FPSS invites foster parents to register for the BCFCE program by contacting the Regional Office in Victoria at:

1-888-922-8437 (Toll Free)
Monday to Thursday, 9:00am to 4:00pm
Friday 9:00am to 1:00pm
bcfce@fpsss.com

BC FOSTER CARE EDUCATION PROGRAM SPRING SUMMER 2018						
CODE	VICTORIA				NANAIMO	
S1-1	T Apr 17	6:30pm-9:30pm	M July 9	9:00am-12:00pm	M July 16	9:30am-12:30pm
S1-2	M Apr 23	6:30pm-9:30pm	M July 9	12:30pm-3:30pm	M July 16	1:00pm-4:00pm
S1-3	T Apr 24	6:30pm-9:30pm	T July 10	9:00am-12:00pm	T July 17	9:30am-12:30pm
S1-4	M Apr 30	6:30pm-9:30pm	T July 10	12:30pm-3:30pm	T July 17	1:00pm-4:00pm
S1-5	T May 1	6:30pm-9:30pm	W July 11	9:00am-12:00pm	W July 18	9:30am-12:30pm
S1-6	M May 7	6:30pm-9:30pm	W July 11	12:30pm-3:30pm	W July 18	1:00pm-4:00pm
S1-7a	T May 8	6:30pm-9:30pm	Th July 12	9:00am-12:00pm	M Aug 20	9:30am-12:30pm
S1-7b	M May 14	6:30pm-9:30pm	Th July 12	12:30pm-3:30pm	M Aug 20	1:00pm-4:00pm
S1-8a	T May 15	6:30pm-9:30pm	F July 13	9:00am-12:00pm	T Aug 21	9:30am-12:30pm
S1-8b	T May 22	6:30pm-9:30pm	F July 13	12:30pm-3:30pm	T Aug 21	1:00pm-4:00pm
S1-9a	M May 28	6:30pm-9:30pm	M Aug 13	9:00am-12:00pm	W Aug 22	9:30am-12:30pm
S1-9b	T May 29	6:30pm-9:30pm	M Aug 13	12:30pm-3:30pm	W Aug 22	1:00pm-4:00pm
CODE	VICTORIA				NANAIMO	
S2-1	M June 4	6:30pm-9:30pm	T Aug 14	9:00am-12:00pm		
S2-2	T June 5	6:30pm-9:30pm	T Aug 14	12:30pm-3:30pm		
S2-5	Sat June 9	9:30am-2:30pm	W Aug 15	9:00am-2:00pm		
S2-3	M June 11	6:30pm-9:30pm	Th Aug 16	9:00am-12:00pm		
S2-4	T June 12	6:30pm-9:30pm	Th Aug 16	12:30pm-3:30pm		
Victoria FPSS Society Office 145-735 Goldstream Avenue				Nanaimo FPSS Society Office 102-6421 Applecross Road		

Series 1: 36 hours / 9 modules:

Each module threads together core themes of teamwork, child and youth development, communications, guiding children's behaviour, family support, diversity and inclusion, and the Ministry of Children and Family Development Guardianship Model. In many cases, modules will refer to or draw upon content from previous modules so it is recommended that Series 1 modules be taken in the sequence below.

S1 - 1 Caring for Children: Overview—3 hours

The first module provides an overview of the training program with an emphasis on MCFD's Guardianship Model, the concept of teamwork, and the roles and responsibilities of those providing care to children. Common themes for successive modules are introduced. Themes include child and youth development, developing relationships and communication skills, guiding children's behaviour, supporting families, and respecting the diversity of children and families.

S1 - 2 Communication Skills & Self-Awareness—3 hours

This module addresses why effective communication skills are foundational to caregiving relationships with children, youth, families, and members of the child care team. The importance of how self-awareness impacts our communication and relationships with others is emphasized.

S1 - 3 Effects of Caregiving—3 hours

Learners explore the possible impacts of caregiving on the foster family and on self. Relationships within neighbourhood and community are also discussed. The signs and sources of stress will be addressed, as well as methods for managing them.

S1 - 4 The Child's Family—3 hours

This module emphasizes the importance of family to the child and promotes an understanding of the child's family. The caregiver's role in working with and involving the child's family is explored.

S1 - 5 Observing, Recording, & Reporting—3 hours

This module addresses the importance of communicating succinct, accurate, and relevant information to the child's worker and other professionals involved with the child. Participants will learn about the benefits and purposes of observing and recording, describe the differences between behavioural description and behavioural interpretation, identify what is relevant to record in a daily log, and discuss when to report relevant information to the appropriate member of the care team.

S1 - 6 Child and Youth Development—3 hours

This module helps caregivers understand how children and youth develop and grow, and will explore potential influences on their development. Participants will learn how to support the growth and development of children and youth placed in their care.

S1 - 7 Attachment, Separation, & Loss—6 hours

A child being placed in foster care can experience separations from his parents, family members, and other significant people who affect their development and behaviour. In this module, the learner will focus on understanding attachment and loss of attachment through discussion in small groups and through the use of case studies. Participants will also learn to promote healthy attachments in the children/youth in their care.

S1 - 8 When Children Experience Abuse & Neglect—6 hours

Learners will explore how to recognize the symptoms and indicators of abuse and neglect and the effect on children. Emphasis will be placed on learning ways to deal positively with reactions and feelings about child

abuse and how to identify and respond to the needs of abused and neglected children. Understanding how to support a child who is disclosing will be discussed.

S1 - 9 Guiding Behaviour of Children & Youth—6 hours

This module will introduce ways of understanding and guiding behaviours using a child/youth-centred approach. Learners will explore ways of understanding and being with children and youth where behaviours may present challenges.

Series 2: 17 hours / 5 modules:

While it is recommended that Series 2 be taken after completing Series 1, it is not a requirement.

S2 - 1 Cultural Responsiveness—3 hours

Learners will explore how caregivers can welcome and be mindful of the diversity of children and youth-in-care. Learners will address the importance of maintaining cultural identity for children's healthy development and will learn supportive ways to respond to children's social and cultural experiences.

S2 - 2 Aboriginal Children in Care—3 hours

In this module, learners explore the importance of understanding and integrating the child's Aboriginal culture in ways that promote and enhance the well-being of Aboriginal Children in care. Learners will address the variety of cultural heritages of Aboriginal people within their own region and will learn how to access local Aboriginal resources.

S2 - 3 Substance Misuse Awareness—3 hours

Learners will explore the varying degrees of substance use, the indications of substance misuse, and the factors that may contribute to misuse. Participants will learn ways to assist and support a child or youth that misuses substances. Access resources dealing with substance misuse will be discussed.

S2 - 4 An Introduction to Fetal Alcohol and Neonatal Abstinence Syndromes—3 hours

This module provides caregivers with some factual information about the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol on the development of children. Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome will also be introduced. Attention will also be given to understanding the implications of caring for children whose development and behaviours may be influenced by this condition and how to respond and support the needs of these children.

S2 - 5 Suicide Awareness—5 hours

Through the use of lecture, experiential exercises, video and group discussions, emphasis will be placed on warning signs, risk assessment, response mechanisms, and where to get help.