

Engage: Domestic Abuse and its Impact on Child Victims

Domestic abuse is not just an adult issue – it deeply affects children, who are legally recognised as victims in their own right. The trauma they experience can have lasting impacts on their brain development, emotional wellbeing, and life outcomes. These impacts are often misunderstood, minimised, or missed entirely.

By understanding the dynamics and risks, professionals can play a vital part in breaking the cycle of abuse and supporting recovery for children from the very beginning.

What to expect:

This training offers a practical introduction to the impact of domestic abuse on children. Participants will explore key legislation, trauma and brain development, risk assessment and effective safety planning. With real-life case studies and group discussion, attendees will gain confidence in recognising harm, responding to disclosures and supporting recovery.

You will:

- Understand the Impact of Domestic Abuse on Children: Learn how abuse affects children across different developmental stages and how this trauma can shape their emotional, cognitive and social development.
- Explore Legal Definitions: Gain clarity on the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, including how children are recognised as victims in their own right.
- Recognise the Signs and Risks: Understand how to identify risk factors, and know when to escalate concerns.
- Respond to Disclosures with Confidence: Develop skills to respond sensitively and appropriately to children and adults disclosing abuse, using clear, non-judgemental communication.
- Apply Trauma-Informed Practice: Deepen your understanding of developmental trauma and how to adapt your approach to support safety, recovery, and trust.
- Strengthen Whole-Family, Multi-Agency Practice: Discover how the Engage Approach promotes joined-up working across systems to hold those causing harm accountable while supporting the whole family.

Suitable for:

This training is suitable for professionals across education, health, social care, criminal justice, and the voluntary sector who work directly or indirectly with children, young people, and families. Offering valuable insights for anyone looking to adopt a trauma-informed, whole-family approach to safeguarding and support.

Delivery details:

Format: Face to Face or Online

Time: 2 hours

Participants: Maximum 15

Find out more: training@mycwa.org.uk