

Common Assessment Framework (CAF)



CAF Training for Practitioners

This online training course in the *Common Assessment Framework (CAF)* has been developed to equip anyone who works with children, young people and families with the knowledge and skills to work with the CAF. Designed for training frontline practitioners new to the CAF, the course is derived in part from the learning materials developed by the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) and contains essential information for practitioners and other frontline staff.

CAF Training for Managers

This version of the course is aimed specifically at Managers who may be responsible for training workers in the Common Assessment Framework and have a role to play in implementing the CAF locally. Whilst it does not include the unit called *Completing the CAF Form*, it does contain additional units on:

- The Lead Professional
- Partner Organisations

This e-learning training course can be used in addition to conventional training in the Common Assessment Framework and is a useful alternative for those who prefer to work at their own pace and at a time and place of their choosing. It contains case studies which allow learners to test their knowledge.

All candidates will receive a certificate upon completion.

Volume discounts available for annual licences—please call for more information

Please contact us on 0114 281 3746 for more information



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About CAF

The CAF is a standardised approach to information-gathering to be used by all agencies involved in the care of children. It derives from the Government's *Every Child Matters* policy.

- The CAF assessment has a 'pre-assessment' process - which helps the practitioner decide whether a formal assessment is, in fact, appropriate.
- The child itself may be able to contribute directly to the process: this depends on the child's 'competency' in this regard.
- Issues of expectation on the part of the child and its carer(s) / family and confidentiality are key features of the CAF process and must be managed sensitively.
- ContactPoint, formerly known by the working title of the 'Information Sharing Index', is an online directory designed to support communications between professionals working with children and young people.
- Information Sharing is another important aspect of the CAF process. If partner agencies are to work together in a co-ordinated fashion to the benefit of the child, this is vital. However, it must be carefully balanced with the right to privacy of the child and their carer(s) / family.
- The importance of multi-agency co-ordination cannot be over-emphasised. Practitioners in the field must be aware of the principles, tools and benefits of 'Integrated Working'.

The role of the Lead Professional is fundamental to the efficiency of the Integrated Working process. Particular types and levels of skill are required which the Lead Professional's co-workers also need to understand. Specific processes exist for their selection and appointment.

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