**Minding the Gap Professional Development Day**

Saturday 18th May 2019

9.30am-4.00pm

Horsham United Reformed Church

45 Springfield Rd, Horsham RH12 1PT

In Partnership with Parents: Connecting, Conversing and Creating

A child centred approach

**Overview**

It is widely recognised that parents are a child's first and foremost 'enduring educators’. As Early Years practitioners, educators and teachers we know that increasingly the care and education of babies, toddlers and young children is shared between families and childcare provision. A child centred partnership approach between us all is therefore essential to support children's wellbeing. In working closely together parents and practitioners can enhance children's learning and development.

**Connecting** starts before the first visit and settling in! We look at how to build a respectful relationship right from the start. We look at good practice for children and parents to ensure the key person relationship is valued and understood. We consider policy and pedagogy around wellbeing, transitions, belonging and attachment to ensure we develop 'social connectivity' with parents and carers.

**Conversing** with parents is essential and we do this in lots of ways and for many different reasons. We look portraying your teaching approach; at the appropriateness of formal and informal discussions; common or potential points of conflicting opinions; and how to deal with 'difficult conversations'.

**Creating**: Lastly, we look at the Government policy document 'Improving the home learning environment' as we work with parents to provide opportunities for **creating** lifelong learners. We look at the concept of 'cultural capital', what 'home' means for some and share ways to encourage 'At Home Learning'.

**Learning Outcomes**

🎯 To develop values, policies and practice in working in partnership with parents

🎯 To know how to support parents with positive conversations and difficult discussions around concerns or development

🎯 To build skills in professionally working with others, understanding government initiatives and meeting the needs of all children

**Workshop 1: Connecting with Parents and Carers**

In this workshop we set the scene for partnership working with parents. We look at the values and ethos around this; how to engage parents in their child's learning from the start and building the ongoing relationship. We cover your ethos, policy and procedures and consider aspects of the parent-child-setting relationship, including parental expectations; effective communication; building trust; settling in; developing attachments, and professional love

**Workshop 2: Conversing with parents - celebrate and communicate**

In this workshop we look at how we celebrate learning through keeping parents informed, issues of possible conflict around care and how to deal with those difficult conversations. We look at your responsibilities to safeguard all children, how to identify and address development and progress concerns, and how to support transitions.

**Workshop 3: Creating a safe and stimulating environment for all - the bigger picture**

In this workshop we examine the policy document 'Improving the home learning environment' and discuss the Government agenda for supporting parents. We look at the concept of 'cultural capital'; what is 'home'; and clarify key messages for working in partnership with parents.

**Our day**

We aim to provide a safe, nurturing environment for you to learn. We will provide refreshments throughout the day so please let us know if you have any dietary requirements. You are required to bring your own lunch, and lunchtime is a valuable opportunity to network with others. We welcome professional discussion throughout our sessions, provide short activities to reinforce learning and encourage you to learn from each other. All attendees are emailed our PowerPoint, handouts and links to further learning following the event.

**Who should attend?**

All those working in the Early Years Foundation Stage interested in continuing their professional development

Our professional development day is hosted by Rebecca Martland and Alison Featherbe.

Rebecca is an experienced Early Years Trainer, Childminder and Nursery World judge. Alison is a knowledgeable Early Years Consultant, EYT mentor and NSPCC trained trainer. Together they have created Minding the Gap CPD to provide affordable, professional and up to date training for all those working in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

**Booking**

Booking opens via Eventbrite and our website on Monday 1st April 2019

🐤 **Take advantage of our first come, first served Early Bird price, available until 28.04.19**

£30 Childminders, Childminder Assistants or Childcare on Domestic Premises

£35 Practitioners in Childcare settings on Non-domestic premises e.g. pre-schools, day nurseries

**Prices from Monday 29.04.19**

£40 Childminders, Childminder Assistants or Childcare on Domestic Premises

£45 Practitioners in Childcare settings on Non-domestic premises e.g. pre-schools, day nurseries

**PLEASE NOTE that booking via Eventbrite will incur an administration fee**

**There is no fee if booked directly with us by bank transfer. We are unable to accept cheque payments**

**Our advice and support**

We are able to offer setting consultations and in-house training. We are available to deliver our Professional Development Days to your teams as an in-service day or team development day. Please get in touch for a full list of workshops available.

Contact details below

**Keep in touch**

Email - mindingthegapcpd@gmail.com

Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/MindingtheGapCPD/

Twitter - @MTG\_CPD

Instagram – mindingthegapcpd

Website – [www.mindingthegapcpd.weebly.net](http://www.mindingthegapcpd.weebly.net)

**Dates for your diary**

Forthcoming dates for more Professional Development Days

Saturday 22nd June 2019 – Southwick Community Centre, 24 Southwick Street, Southwick, BN42 4TE

Saturday 5th October 2019 - venue TBC