

Keeping Kids Central

Free e-learning course



Course overview

The Keeping Kids Central course is designed to help individuals and organisations understand and apply child-centred approaches in their work with children and young people, particularly those who have experienced domestic and family violence.

The online course provides the context for why working with children and young people is important, privileges the child's voice on how to best support them, challenges and builds on learners' views and practices in working with children and their families, and presents tools and resources for working with children and young people.

The ACU Institute of Child Protection Studies (ICPS) developed the course with support from the Australian Government Department of Social Services. The course content draws on research ICPS conducted with and for children and young people.

Intended audience

Any individual or organisation that engages in any way with children and young people, particularly those who have experienced domestic and family violence.

Professionals working directly with families at risk of, or experiencing, domestic and family violence and other challenging issues will develop or enhance their knowledge and skills in adopting child-centred approaches.

Program leaders and managers will learn about promoting enabling environments, that is, workplaces in which workers feel able to act on and/or adopt child-centred approaches.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- explain the nature and dynamics of domestic and family violence
- recognise the important role that children and young people play in identifying and managing risks to their safety and wellbeing
- articulate key messages from children and young people about their support needs
- identify and implement child-specific assessment, engagement and support tools with children and young people
- recognise organisational policies and procedures that support child-safe and child-centred approaches
- develop/implement strategies to create child-safe and child-friendly environments.

To register contact ICPS ...

E: icps@acu.edu.au

P: (03) 9953 3644

Disclaimer (April 2019): Information correct at time of printing. The University reserves the right to amend, cancel or otherwise modify the course/content without notice.

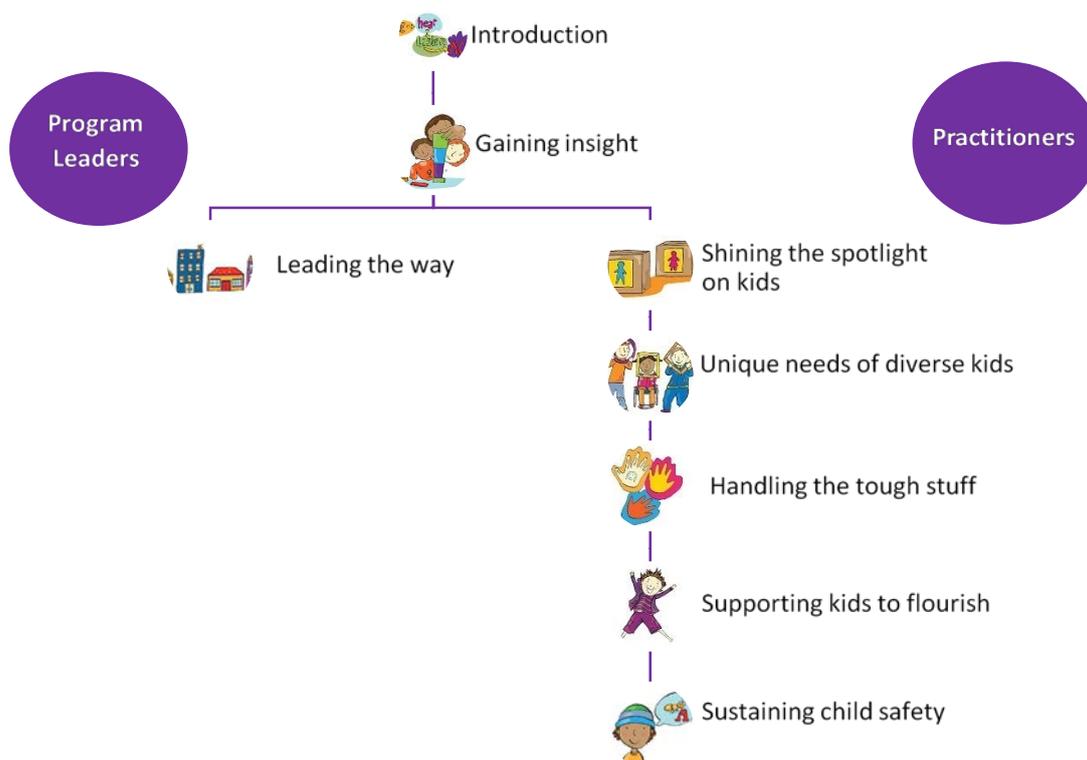
Course structure

The course consists of an introduction and seven learning modules; each taking between 45 to 60 minutes to complete.

There are two proposed learning pathways – Program Leaders and Practitioners (see diagram below). The Program Leader pathway is designed for individuals responsible for developing and/or managing programs that engage in any way with children and young people. The Practitioner pathway is designed for individuals working in any way with children and young people.

The course adopts a flexible learning approach. Participants can view modules in any order and complete whole modules or only select lessons within a module, depending on their learning needs and existing experience.

Learning pathways



Course content overview

Gaining insight

- Explores the nature and dynamics of domestic and family violence - what it is, the factors and features of family violence, its prevalence, its impact on children and their families, and some of the more common myths about family violence
- Features the lived experiences of children and young people in families who have experienced by domestic and family violence
- Provides insights into children and young people's support needs

Shining the spotlight on kids

- Identifies ways to effectively engage with children and young people
- Introduces the concept of child-focused assessments
- Promotes practices that provide children with opportunities to participate in planning and decisions that affect their lives

Unique needs of diverse kids

- Considers how domestic and family violence affects children and young people from diverse backgrounds, specifically Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from migrant families, children living with disability and LGBTQIA+ children
- Presents strategies for building inclusive services

Handing the tough stuff

- Identifies strategies for creating a safe environment for and enabling disclosures about children and young people's experiences of domestic and family violence
- Considers assessing risk and planning for safety
- Details best practice guidelines for supporting individuals to act on safety concerns

Supporting kids to flourish

- Features strategies that support children and young people to build their resilience and reduce their vulnerability to domestic and family violence
- Explores ways to assist families experiencing vulnerabilities to enhance the outcomes for children and young people

Sustaining child safety

- Describes the role of a Children's Champion in the workplace
- Presents actions that Children's Champions can take to enhance the safety of children and young people, lead skill development, build an evidence-base on effective child-centred practices, establish collaborative partnerships and sustain practice change

Leading the way

- Reveals an approach to the design and implementation of child-safe and child-centred practices and standards, including governance arrangements
- Outlines strategies for supporting a workforce to adopt child-centred practices
- Reviews how to incorporate feedback from children and young people about their support needs into service design process