

COURSE CONTENT OVERVIEW

# Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards



The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) are part of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and were created to provide protection for adults in need who are unable to make decisions for themselves. The DoLS help vulnerable people who lack the capacity to maintain their own independence, dignity and right to freedom.

This training course aims to help learners understand what their responsibilities are in relation to the DoLS so that they can promote the welfare of the adults that they work with or care for, ensure compliance with the law and understand how to assess capacity and make decisions that are in a person's best interests.

#### **Module One: Introduction**

This module explains what is covered by the Mental Capacity Act and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, looking at what the Safeguards are and which people they apply to. The module provides definitions for some key terms.

- Who is this course for?
- What is the Mental Capacity Act?
- Decisions covered by the Mental Capacity Act
- What are the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards?
- Who do the Safeguards apply to?
- Related legislation
- Key definitions
- Case study - Bournemouth

#### **Module Two: What is Deprivation?**

This module looks at what is meant by the terms 'deprivation' and 'restraint', raises awareness of the different categories of abuse and explains how to determine the difference between restriction of freedom and deprivation of freedom.

- Is deprivation the same as abuse?
- Types of abuse
- Restraint
- Restriction vs deprivation
- Identifying deprivation

#### **Module Three: The Five Statutory Principles**

This module outlines the five statutory principles – the five key values - contained within the Mental Capacity Act and explains how you can help someone to make a decision, act in their best interests and always choose the least restrictive option.

- What are the five statutory principles?
- Principle 1: Assuming and assessing capacity
- Principle 2: Helping someone to make a decision
- Principle 3: Personal beliefs and preferences
- Principle 4: Best interests
- Principle 5: A less restrictive alternative
- What if people disagree over best interests?

#### **Module Four: Authorised Deprivation**

This module looks at what should happen in situations where the deprivation of liberty is unavoidable. The module explains how an application for deprivation can be made and what happens once authorisation is received.

- When is a deprivation of liberty acceptable?
- Obtaining authorisation
- The application process
- Assessments
- Receiving authorisation
- Representatives
- Reviewing authorisation
- Challenging the authorisation
- Protection from liability

## Aims of the training

By the end of this course learners will:

- Understand what the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards are and how they can be applied to care homes and settings.
- Know what constitutes deprivation, restriction and restraint.
- Understand essential responsibilities under the Mental Capacity Act 2005, including the five statutory principles.
- Have an awareness of what's involved in assessing capacity and best interests.
- Understand the authorisation process for the necessary deprivation of liberty, including the application process, assessments and reviewing the authorisation.