

COURSE CONTENT OVERVIEW

Domestic Violence and Abuse

Domestic violence and abuse (DVA) is a serious safeguarding children issue. As someone who works with children, young people and/or their families, it's important that you have an understanding of what DVA is, how it impacts a child's life, and what actions you should take if you have a concern about a child or family.

This Domestic Violence and Abuse training course helps learners to understand more about how domestic violence begins and who perpetrates it, how to identify when DVA is happening, and how to respond appropriately to concerns to deal with any concerns they may have.

Module One: What is Domestic Violence?

This module provides an introduction to DVA and explains what domestic violence and abuse is, who it happens to, and who it impacts the lives of children.

- What is domestic violence?
- Types of domestic violence
- Statistics
- Who is at risk from domestic violence?
- The impact on children

Module Two: Components of Domestic Violence

This module looks at the Duluth Power and Control Wheel, a popular model that outlines the many different components of domestic violence and abuse. The module uses a range of case examples to show how DVA can be identified in real life.

- The dynamics of domestic violence
- The Duluth Model
- Power and control
- Coercion and threats
- Intimidation
- Emotional abuse
- Isolation
- Denying and blaming
- Using children
- Using privilege
- Financial abuse

Module Three: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Victims

This module explains how DVA begins, who is likely to perpetrate the abuse, and why victims of abuse don't speak out about their experiences. The module looks at the impact that domestic violence can have on its victims.

- How domestic violence begins
- Who can be a victim of domestic violence?
- Who perpetrates domestic violence?
- Why don't victims of abuse come forward?
- The impact of domestic violence
- The impact on mental health
- Coping mechanisms

Module Four: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children

This module outlines the adverse effects that DVA has on children in the household, looking at how children may react to the abuse and explaining why witnessing DVA is considered a form of significant harm.

- Recognising domestic violence
- Case example
- How are children affected by domestic violence?
- The impact on children
- How children respond to domestic violence

Module Five: Responding to Concerns

This module details how professionals should act if they have a concern about a child in relation to domestic violence. The module explains how to talk to victims and children appropriately, when to contact social care, and what actions can be taken to protect the family from harm.

- First steps
- Talking to suspected victims
- Talking about domestic violence
- Talking to children
- Taking action
- Case example
- Contacting social care
- Identifying significant harm
- Protecting children at risk
- Clare's Law
- Domestic Violence Protection Orders
- Further resources

Aims of the training

By the end of this course, learners will:

- Understand what is meant by domestic violence and abuse and be aware of the most common components of abuse.
- Understand the impact that domestic violence and abuse has on victims and their lives.
- Have an awareness of how domestic violence begins and who may perpetrate the abuse.
- Understand the impact that domestic violence and abuse has on children, and understand why domestic violence is considered a type of significant harm under safeguarding guidance.
- Know how to respond appropriately to any concerns about children and their families in relation to domestic violence.