

## Booking Information

It is important that carers are experienced in fostering and that both participate. In order to facilitate this, the course is available on Saturdays.

Maximum number of people per course is 20. The course runs from 9.30am to 4.30pm.

Course fee is available on request and includes facilitators' expenses, fees and hand-out material. The health board / agency is responsible for venue, equipment and refreshments.

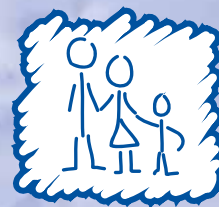
The Irish Foster Care Association requires a minimum of six weeks notice prior to the course being available.



IRISH FOSTERCARE  
ASSOCIATION

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Ballinteer Road, Dublin 16.

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*Minimising  
the Risk*

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# Minimising the Risk

is a participative, informative workshop which has been developed by the Irish Foster Care Association in response to requests by foster carers and health boards alike. The issue of safe care is explored in an open, practical and

## Why Attend?

This course provides a valuable opportunity for you to inform yourself on ways of making foster placements a safer place for children to be. It provides a forum for you to further develop your skills and knowledge on this topic. This interactive presentation will enable you to share your ideas and experiences and learn from the experiences of others.

## Course Content

- q Defining abuse and its effects on children.
- q Reporting procedures as outlined in **Children First**.
- q Why are children abused in care?
- q Supporting a child in disclosing abuse.
- q Managing sexualised behaviour.
- q Dealing with allegations of abuse against foster carers.
- q Practical strategies for implementing aspects of safe care in your home.

## External Evaluation

Patricia Walsh, a lecturer in the Department of Social Studies, Trinity College, Dublin, was commissioned to evaluate this course.

*"The 'Safe Care' training package - 'Minimising the Risk', was found to be both enjoyable and informative on the day and also generated a more sober assessment of additional needs and concerns in the longer-term"*

Patricia Walsh

## Comments from participants

*"I found the format of the training very informative, interesting and enjoyable."*

*"I felt the course was excellent... I feel health boards need to see the devastation caused by an allegation not only to the child making it but to whole foster families."*

