Supporting and working with bereaved children and young people

Target audience
Any professionals who are involved in the support of bereaved children and young people e.g:
- Health care
- Education
- Social care

Course description
This study day is ideally suited to professionals with little or limited previous bereavement training. It will help to develop confidence, skills and practical techniques in working with and supporting a bereaved child or young person.

Learning objectives
- To introduce bereavement and developmental theory and research and on this basis, develop confidence and skills for supporting a bereaved child
- To understand how a child’s age and development influences a child’s understanding of death
- To gain an understanding of the impact of grief and bereavement
- To increase knowledge and skills in working with bereaved children and young children
- To develop practical skills in working with telling the story, dealing with difficult feelings and memories
- To develop personal self-awareness and self-care in an emotionally challenging field of work
Life-limiting illness and pre-bereavement work

Target audience
- General practitioners and nursing staff
- Hospital staff: doctors, nurses, bereavement officers
- Hospice workers
- Community palliative care nurses
- School staff
- Social workers

Course description
Learning of, and living with, the knowledge that a close family member is going to die is never easy. Some families find this so difficult they avoid the subject. This training day will focus on practical ways of supporting families facing the death of a family member. We will address the issues around who is dying, enabling families to communicate, answering children’s difficult questions, creating memories and thinking about funerals.

Learning objectives
- To develop understanding of the issues around life-threatening illness and how a dying parent and their family can be supported through appropriate language and clear communication
- To appreciate the needs of children to understand what is happening
- To develop communication skills appropriate to the age of the child
- To develop self-awareness of the personal impact when working with families facing death
- To develop a range of practical ideas to support the person who is dying, such as creating memory boxes, letters and other messages to be opened on special occasions in the future

“A really useful day with time to talk and to pick up real strategies that can be used........ a well facilitated day that did what I wanted it to do”.

Study day delegate 2016
We offer a range of resources that can support your work with children and young people.

Contact Winston’s Wish on 01242 515157 to purchase resources & publications or visit our online shop www.winstonswish.org.uk