

BFG CAF Update March 2009

Training Dates

20 April Implementation Training Hohne

21 April Awareness Raising Hohne

22 April Implementation Training Rhine

28 April Awareness Raising Gütersloh

28 April Awareness Raising Paderborn

To apply for training please send you details to Pippa Hunter, ETS Branch, HQ UKSC(G), BFPO 140, tel 72 2905
email Philippa.Hunter202@mod.uk

Closure Form

It is important that when the CAF has been used to support a child or young person the closure form is used to complete the process. This should be attached to the CAF paperwork to make it clear that the CAF intervention has ended, and a copy sent to Bryan Abell, to allow for evaluation about the use of the CAF.

The importance of this should be stressed. For instance we know anecdotally (through talking to practitioners) that the CAF is being used to effectively, yet so far no closure forms have been received. Please can practitioners send in forms for the CAFs which have already been closed (the form does not have to have any child identifying details on), and get in to the habit of returning these on completion. All forms are available in the toolkit or online at <http://www.bfgnet.de/Community/docs/cypp/caf/caf.htm>

Where are we now?

Each agency/organisation has undertaken a conversational review of the use of the CAF by practitioners across BFG. The findings are fairly consistent across all agencies. and are summarised below:

- Where the CAF is being used it is improving the Outcomes for children.
- Use of the CAF varies across BFG, Hohne has the most use and Rhine the least.
- Use of the CAF is supported by practitioners who overcome initial barriers (ie lack of confidence in using a new tool, accepting the responsibility, changing the way of working) to use the CAF and then effectively become "local champions".
- Use of the CAF is increased where it is supported by local agency/organisation procedures such as supervision or specialists providing a "guiding hand".
- Practitioners in some areas expressed that it was not needed as they had existing multi-agency working practices which provided for the same outcomes. However on further exploration not all of these practices would meet the good practice principles of the CAF, such as child/parent involvement, permission for sharing information, action based on assessment of strengths and needs, nor did they always lead to the production of holistic action plans which brought practitioners together and co-ordinated their input.

Links between CAF and CRT

CRT will hold a list of those who have completed CAF Implementation Training, alongside a list of each agency's CAF champion.

CRT will use these lists to support practitioners who refer a case to CRT which would more appropriately be supported through a CAF. In these cases CRT will offer "consultation" to the practitioner to support them putting the CAF into practice, this could include identifying a colleague in the same organisation who can directly support the practitioner (hence the above lists), discussing the CAF process and the particulars of the individual case, using the checklist effectively. This will be followed by a letter from CRT to the practitioner outlining what was discussed. The next CAF Implementation Team meeting will consider how practitioners can be better encouraged to use the CAF Assessment prior to referring a case to CRT (section 17 only). This is accepting that completing the CAF assessment will allow the practitioner to be clear about what the needs are and the best way to meet those needs.

ContactPoint

ContactPoint will hold the demographic details of the 11 million children who live in England alongside the contact details of those who provide services to each child. The purpose of ContactPoint is to allow practitioners to quickly make contact with other practitioners who are involved with the same child.

No case information will be held on ContactPoint, and strict measures are in place to control access.

The MoD is working with the DCSF to ensure that Service children living overseas can receive the benefits ContactPoint provides.

CAF Champions

AWS, BFGHS and SCE have identified the following people in each garrison as CAF Champions. A CAF champion is a colleague who can be asked for advice, or who will challenge existing practice which could be improved through use of the CAF. CAF Champions should also be seen as a conduit for raising issues up to the CAF implementation team.

	BFGHS	SCE	AWS
CAF Implementation Team	Nia Roberts 81 3755	Mark Fraser 79 4045	Ian Barber 723603
Bergen Hohne	Jacqui Mansfield	Hazel Russell	Carl Wick
Gütersloh	Lindsay Jackson	Jon Titterton	Keith Uytendhal
Paderborn	To be confirmed	Steve Navin	Dave Mothersole
Rhine	Jenny Alexander,	Jackie Raymond	Ian Barber
BFG Lead	Bryan Abell, 72 4867, Bryan.abell337@mod.uk		