

**Audience** Groups 1-8 (Working Together 2010)

**Methods** Small group activity

### Preparation

Trainers may find it helpful to read handout:

#### ■ H4 Neglect and attachment

You may want to make copies available to participants.

### Links to Common Core

**Common Core 2** Child and young person development (skills: observation and judgment). Understand that babies, children and young people see and experience the world in different ways.

**Common Core 3** Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the child (skills: personal skills). Understand the different forms and extent of abuse and their impact on children's development.

## Childhood Neglect: Improving Outcomes for Children

### Learning Outcomes

To understand that child development is a dynamic process shaped by historical and current interactions between child, family and environment.

### Process

Ask participants to work in small groups of 3-4 to consider internal working models. Participants may not be familiar with the concept and may only have a rudimentary knowledge of attachment theory. They may, therefore, need a quick overview. In discussion afterwards participants can be asked to consider the following messages:

- Children need experiences that enhance their sense of security, self-esteem and self-efficacy.
- Neglect also has a profound emotional impact and not just physical effects on children.
- Children need caregivers who can help them understand and control their feelings effectively.
- There is a risk that parents can repeat their own experiences of neglectful care.
- If parents have the opportunities to recognise and understand the impact of their experiences, this can help break the cycle.
- These opportunities can occur throughout life (new carer in family, supportive teacher, supportive partner).
- The more severe the neglect, the more difficult it is to resolve early losses and trauma.

### Time

Total : 45 minutes

further

Neglect and  
attachment

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