

## POST QUALIFYING AWARD IN SPECIALIST SOCIAL WORK (CHILD CARE)

The new PQ Award in Specialist Social Work (Child Care) began in Autumn 2007. This is a national recognised award with graduate level academic accreditation from Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU). All newly qualified social work practitioners are given the opportunity to begin studying for this award. NQSWs, having completed their specific training programme in their first year of practice, may then attend workshops during their second year which will offer guidance in building their portfolios to submit for assessment by CCCU to complete their **PQ Consolidation Module**.

The portfolio consists of:

- A 1,000 word reflective account of learning
- A 2,000 word Case Study (linking learning to practice)
- A 1,000 word Critical Incident Analysis
- An APT including 3 observations of practice
- 3 examples of formal report writing.

On completion of the Consolidation Module, social workers may register their interest in studying for the remainder of the Specialist Award with their Line Manager. CFE/CSS has agreed to fund a specific number of places each year on the Specialist Award at CCCU. Selection to these places will be made in terms of individual's personal/professional development and also on the business needs/plans of each area.

The programme consists of five modules:

1. Legal and Policy Framework for Childrens Services
2. Safeguarding and Protecting Children
3. Child Development and Assessment
4. Interprofessional Collaboration
5. Practice Education

Each module will involve six University based taught days. The programme (including study time) is approximately 55 days in total – this is broken down into 30 taught days, 20 study days, 5 days for child observations/observations of practice. Approximately 80% will be work release time, and the 20 study days (which include assignment writing, portfolio preparation etc) will be a mixture of 10 days work release time and 10 days from each candidates own time.

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