

Oxfordshire Virtual School presents:

2024 Annual Conference

‘Nurturing a strong sense of identity and belonging in care-experienced children’



Join Oxfordshire Virtual School and contributors for our 2024 Annual Conference - a day of connection, learning and sharing of best practice.

Together, we will think about:

- The importance of belonging for children in need and care-experienced children
- The difference between healthy and unhealthy belonging
- How to nurture healthy belonging in our organisations
- How the language we use impacts on people’s identity and sense of belonging
- Findings from research into the needs of children in need (including those in care), adoptive and special guardianship families
- How our identities intersect and the impact this has on our lived experiences
- What’s happening in the world of neurodiversity research
- The prevalence of neurodiversity in the care-experienced population
- Autism and attachment disorders – how do we tell the difference?

The day will consist of keynotes, a choice of 3 workshops, an opportunity to network and a panel Q&A.

Keynote speakers include:

- Lisa Cherry – Lisa is an author, researcher and leading international trainer and consultant, specialising in assisting schools, services and systems to create change that supports working with the legacy of trauma.
- Professor Amanda Kirby - Amanda has an international reputation in the field of Neurodiversity. She is the current chair of the ADHD Foundation, in the UK works closely with the BDA, Dyspraxia Foundation and several Autism charities.

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**27th June 2024
09:00 -15:30**

**The Kassam Stadium,
Grenoble Road, Oxford.
OX4 4XP**

Keynote speeches delivered by leaders in their field will seek to support delegates in their work to support children in need, children in care and care leavers in having high aspirations for themselves and pursuing their ambitions.

“I think one thing that stops children from achieving what they want is being told they won’t be able to. That feeling of not being good enough and other people putting you down.”

– Girl, 15, in foster care

Book here

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