

PDA DEVELOPMENT GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE JUNE 2016

Background

The group was established around the time of the first NAS/AEM (then NoRSACA) conference held in January 2011, which has subsequently become an annual event.

Meetings were originally of a very informal nature, taking place twice a year. They initially focussed on preparing the programme for the conferences, updating on issues within the relevant service and sharing good practice, information and resources. As time has gone on, the group has also used meetings to be updated on current research, been involved in revising the information on PDA on the NAS website and made some suggestions about possible future developments in training.

The group originally comprised those involved with the Elizabeth Newson Centre/Sutherland House School, the Lorna Wing Centre/NAS and Robert Ogden School. This has gradually widened to include representation from the PDA Society, those involved in research and practitioners interested in PDA who are working in different settings eg NHS, Universities and independent organisations.

At the meeting in December 2016 it was put forward that with the expansion of the group it was timely to consider more formalised arrangements in relation to a terms of reference and membership.

The following was agreed as a statement to summarise the purpose and status of the group

Purpose and focus of meetings

To provide a forum to update and discuss developments in research, practice, and training.

To exchange plans about further development of training and conference materials

To share information on upcoming publications and other resources

To undertake specific pieces of work as requested and follow agreed actions from each meeting

To take a proactive role in advising on necessary developments in the above areas

Membership of group

The membership shall comprise representation from the NAS and PDA Society and individual practitioners with an interest in PDA from a range of

disciplines (education, paediatrics, psychology, research) working in both independent and statutory settings.

It was decided that, at present, the group needs to be small enough to work in an effective way and have continuity of membership. Therefore the core group will be maintained and built on by invitation to individuals put forward to the group.

Frequency and location of meetings

Every six months. Venues to be agreed at each meeting.

Standing Agenda

1. Research Updates
2. Other publications
3. Conferences and Training
4. Update from PDA Society
5. Diagnostic Issues
6. Other relevant updates from services
7. AOB and next meeting date

Chairing of Group/Meetings

The group will elect the chair on a bi-annual basis.

Minute taking

It was agreed that a minute taker be allocated at the start of each meeting.