

Working with Children: Oaklander Intensive

with **Jon Blend** MA Dip Child Dip Psych



Dates: 12, 26 June; 10, 24 July; 7 August 2021 10am -5.30pm

Venue: Friends Meeting House, 17 Woodville Rd, Ealing London W5 *the well-ventilated Garden room has direct access to a substantial secluded garden. Attention will be paid to maintaining a socially distanced, safe learning environment in the wake of Covid-19.*

This 'hands on' part experiential, part didactic workshop, now in its fifteenth year, caters for counsellors, psychotherapists and other professionals working with children. Incorporating the arts in therapy with children offers an 'experience near' vehicle for self-expression that aids contactful exploration of issues, fosters resilience and enhances wellbeing. Grounded in Gestalt therapy theory the course draws inspiration from the projective arts approach of eminent gestalt child & adolescent psychotherapist Dr. Violet Oaklander (*Windows to our Children; Hidden Treasures*) also ideas from Attachment and Systemic theories. It will also interest those wishing to explore their own relationship with creativity and/or play. The group will experience many of these arts modalities: **drawing, clay, sandtray, music-making, haiku, movement, drama and puppets.**

Course content: includes key concepts (awareness, contact, dialogic relationship, support), reasons children come into therapy, developmental principles, conjoint family assessment and contracting, first sessions, the therapeutic process, crisis intervention and blended working, anger and aggressive energy, diversity, grief work, safeguarding, additional needs, group work, reviewing and ending. **Methods:** 'live' demonstrations, didactic, group work, discussion.

Cost £490 payable by BACS. (Fee includes all materials, worksheets, reading list and attendance certificate. **Counts for 33 hours cpd.** **Booking:** Email jon.blend335@gmail.com.

Jon Blend is a faculty member of the Institute for Arts in Therapy & Education (Wellbeing Practice Diploma), trainer with the Violet Solomon Oaklander Foundation, child psychotherapist, supervisor, author and Lifemusician. Jon brings 40 years' experience of working with children and families in the fields of community mental health and performing arts. He has delivered workshops and presentations to health and education professionals in Bath, Budapest, Chepstow, Goole, Kyiv, London, Manchester, Naples, Oxford, Rzeszow, Sofia, Tbilisi, Toronto and Zagreb. For nine articles & further information see www.gacp.co.uk/