

# SAFEGUARDING YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE



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# PROGRAM OF THE WORKSHOP

- Presentation of the project Safeguarding young people in care
- Website and database: a site for networking and resources
- Presentation of the summerschool
- Exercise: The Developing wheel
- Presentation and visiting the online course
- Dialogue
- Creating a network

# The Project SAFEGUARDING YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE

3 Universities: Antwerp,  
Amsterdam and  
Denmark  
Scotland as expert  
4 workfield partners  
from Belgium, the  
Netherlands and Denmark

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Each country has  
provided  
referencegroups and  
students are closely  
involved as co –  
researchers and trainees

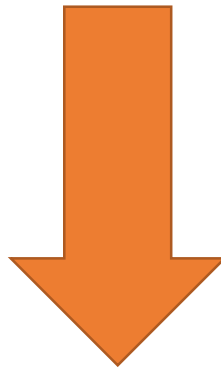


# BACKBONE OF THE PROJECT

National investigations have shown:

- **a high prevalence of sexual abuse** in residential care and foster care (E.g Samson et al. 2012).
- professionals perceive very few of the cases of sexual abuse in residential and foster care and **in many cases the perpetrators turn out to be peers.**
- **incapability of professionals in discussing and supporting healthy sexual development and behavior** with/of children, young people, their (foster) parents and other professionals in order to prevent for sexual abuse in residential and foster care.
- **lack of the knowledge and skills to support** a healthy sexual development in children and young people.
- **incapability of recognizing unacceptable sexual behavior, setting limits and making them subject of discussion and intervening effectively.**

As a consequence, competences on how to support a healthy sexual development in children and young people and how to recognize and act upon unacceptable sexual behavior should be gained during (social work) education.



**What do children and young people in residential care need for a healthy sexual development?**

# PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

- To equip higher education students and professionals with knowledge and tools to be able to prevent sexual abuse of children as a professional, and to support vulnerable children in their development related to safe and healthy sexual behavior.
- Educational mobility
- Dissemination



# GOAL



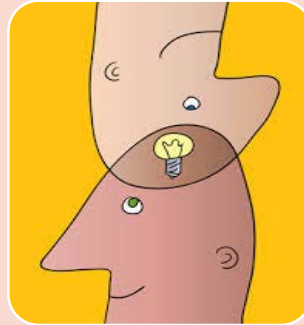
To develop an educational program for (future) professionals working in residential and foster care that provides:

- knowledge on healthy sexual development
- skills on discussing intimacy, relations and sexual development with children, young people, their (foster)parents and other professionals
- skills and tools on sexual education (including e.g. feelings, gender-aspects and 'knowing your own body') and setting norms in relation to unacceptable sexual behaviour of children and young people, their (foster)parents and other professionals
- knowledge and skills to take social, religious and cultural diversity on sexual matters into account.

# OUTCOMES of the project:

## RESEARCH

- 1.a review of available materials (e.g. training programs, guidelines and tools)
- 2.expert interviews
- 3.focus groups with professionals working in residential or foster care



## DATABASE

Materials for education and inspiration

## SUMMER SCHOOL

For students

## ONLINE COURSE

For professionals

## CONFERENCE

The final results, obtained goals and the future plans for the project will be presented.

2015 -2018



# 5 THEMES

1. Values, policy, laws connected to sexual upbringing
2. Knowledge about sexual development
3. Sexual Identity
4. Talking about sexuality
5. Sexual risk behavior

# Safeguarding children and young people – **WEBSITE AND DATABASE**



[Safeguarding children and young people](#)

# SUMMERSCHOOL – PRACTICAL INFO

- Duration: 2 weeks
- Level: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years undergraduate students Social Work
- Language: English
- When: June 2018 in Amsterdam
- Possibilities to organise this summer school in your own country with our help.

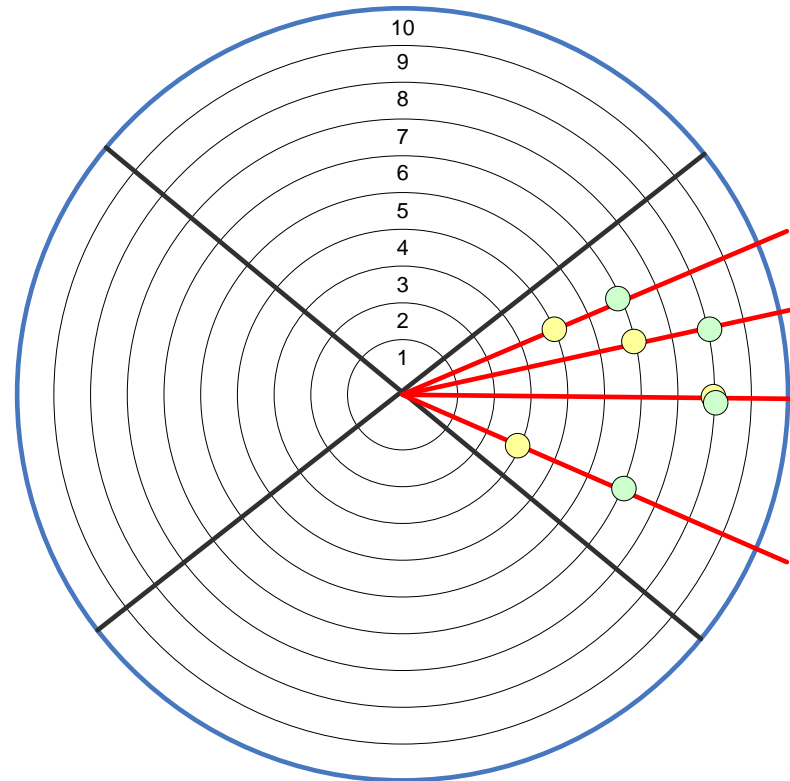
# Summerschool

- Integrative field lab
- Learning by doing
  - Theoretical instructions
  - Different approaches
- Exchange between countries
- Ambassador of a healthy sexual development of young people in care

# DEVELOPING WHEEL

Organizational and interdisciplinary cooperation

Daily social educational practice



Personal attitudes/values

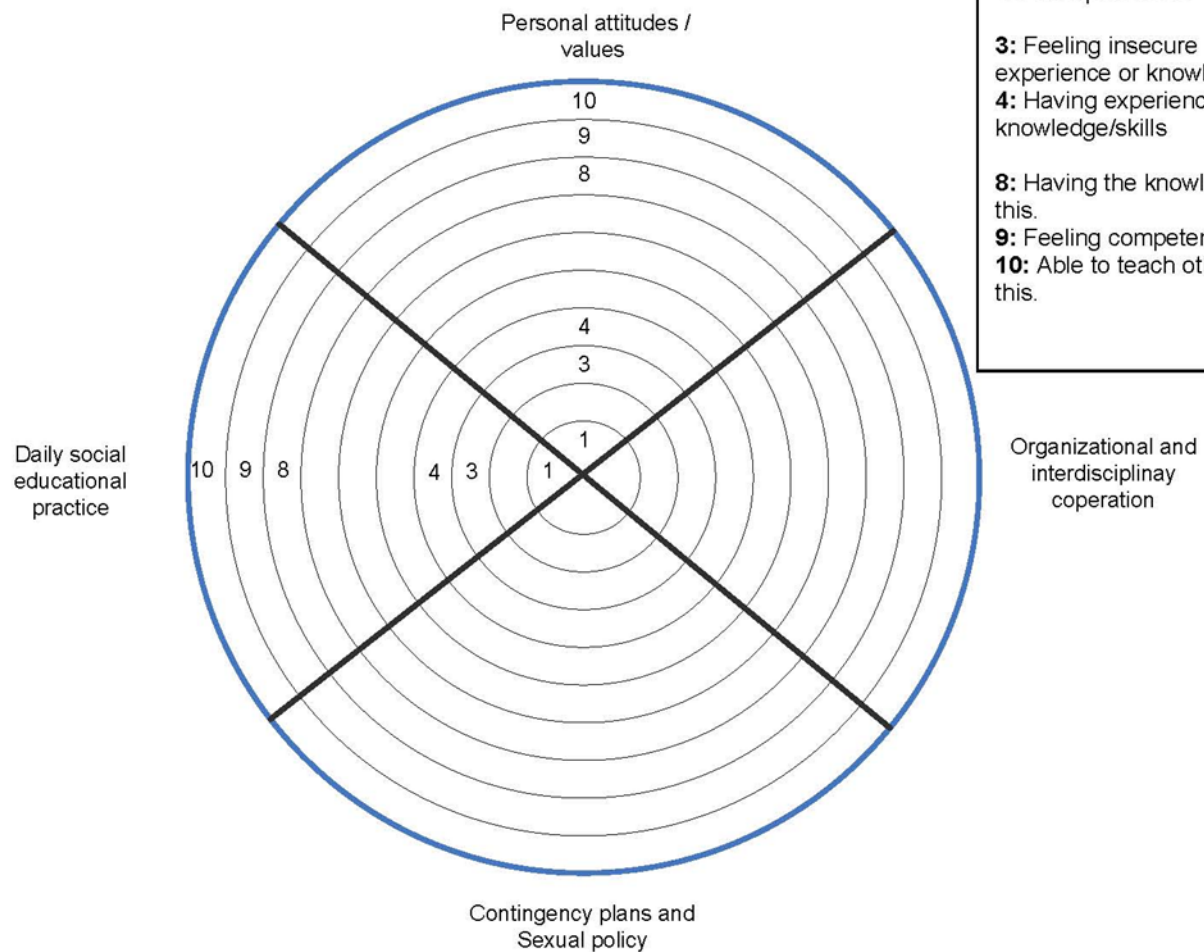
Contingency plans and Sexual policy

# Template for actionplan

	How is your capability today?	Where would you like to be?	How will you get there?
<b>Personal attitudes/values:</b>			
<b>Daily social educational practice:</b>			
<b>Organizational and interdisciplinary cooperation:</b>			
<b>Contingency plans and sexual policy:</b>			

# EXC. 1. Developing wheel

## 1. The Developing Wheel:



**1:** No experiences

**3:** Feeling insecure because of no/little experience or knowledge

**4:** Having experiences and in need of more knowledge/skills

**8:** Having the knowledge and experiences to do this.

**9:** Feeling competent to do this.

**10:** Able to teach other colleagues regarding this.

# Developing wheel

1. No experiences.
3. Feeling insecure because of no/little experience or knowledge.
4. Having experience and in need of more knowledge and needing more skills.
8. Having the knowledge and experience to do this.
9. Feeling competent to do this.
10. Able to teach other colleagues regarding this.



# ONLINE COURSE



This *free online course* is especially meant for professionals working in residential care or as foster parents.

The online course makes professionals work in teams with the **subject of relations, intimacy and sexuality**.

## Paragraphs

Open - free

Flexible and readily accessible

Easy to implement in teamwork (eg take out material in pdf)

One-page layout (website layout)

Responsive

Digital and practical balance

# ONLINE COURSE

## Didactical concept and content



CONCEPT	CONTENT
SEE (KNOWLEDGE)	Information Statements Knowledge check Casestudies Library Videos Films
THINK (ATTITUDE)	Exercises: cases, reflections, discussions
ACT (CHANGE)	Cases Plans of action



## The 5 modules:

1. Values, policy, laws connected to sexual upbringing
2. Knowledge about sexual development
3. Sexual Identity
4. Talking about sexuality
5. Sexual risk behavior

## EXC. 2 Sexual identity



[Online course Safeguarding Children](#)

1. Explore the online course
2. Visit module 3  
- a guided tour

# DIALOG AND FEEDBACK

- **Think:** How do you consider the situation in your country concerning professional competencies working with sexual healthy development with children in residential homes and foster care?
- **Discus:** how do you rank the possibility of the project Safeguarding children as a way of improving the efforts?
- What **feedback** will you give the project? – write 3 statements on a post it



# Network

We would like to expand our international network in order to:

- Pilot test of online course
- Get feedback on the outcomes of the project
- Make room for new cooperative network

If you want to receive news, pilot test outcomes, get invitation to the final conference

- FILL IN A CARD:

NAME  
COUNTRY  
EMAIL

# Organizers workshop:

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