Journey with an Unaccompanied Child

A capacity-building training from Refugee Youth Service



Learn about the journeys made by Ali, Afran, Joey, and thousands of others like them every year.





Refugee Youth Service: Who Are We?

RYS was born in the Calais "Jungle" camp in 2015 to offer a safe space and respite for the growing number of unaccompanied children that were residing there.

The organisation has since developed multi-disciplinary teams in France and Greece which support children and young people to either re-start and re-build their lives where they are or safely reach an alternative destination that is in their better interests.

RYS has now handed its projects over to local organisations which it continues to support, and has shifted focus to the UK with the launch of its Journey with an Unaccompanied Child capacity-building training.

Refugee Youth Service creates immediate and lasting change in the lives of unaccompanied children and young people on the move in Europe.



The training shares the insight and knowledge gained from six years of working with children on the move in Europe, and aims to promote best practice within the care that children receive. Our goal is to reach every individual and group that supports unaccompanied children in the UK.

Training Overview

The training is based on real people and real events and is delivered by Refugee Youth Service's former frontline staff.

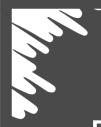
Participants are brought into direct contact with first-hand witnesses of unaccompanied children's journeys.

The training is delivered in two parts, with the option of bespoke sessions. These can be taken back-to-back or separately. Online or in-person.

We recommend taking them across consecutive days and do not offer them spaced more than a week apart.

We can also co-design a training with you to meet your specific needs, at an additional cost.







Part 1: Leaving Home

Meet Ali, Joey and Afran in their birth countries and follow them as they become unaccompanied children and travel alone to Europe. In small groups we will build an understanding of what their life was like before they left, the factors that led them to leave, and what they experienced on their journeys to Europe.

Part 2: Travelling through Europe and Arrival in the UK

Follow Ali, Joey and Afran as they travel alone through Europe and arrive in the UK. Continue to work in small groups, building an understanding of what they experienced in Europe and how they arrived in the UK. This learning is consolidated into an understanding of the impact these exepreinces have on unaccompanied children, and what this means for our practice. We focus on what we should do, and should avoid doing if we want to support them as best we can.

Part 3: Bespoke sessions

We can offer a range of optional sessions tailored to your needs. Topics include:

- Language and terminology
- Age assessments
- Exploitation
- Professional challenges
- · Overcoming barriers to education and employment
- Q & A with RYS's frontline staff and volunteers





Who is this training for?

Anyone who supports, makes decisions about, encounters or is likely to encounter an unaccompanied child through their job, volunteer role, or daily community life.

The training is suitable for all levels from students to managers. For experienced practioners the training refreshes knowledge and creates time to reconnect and reflect. For those with little or no experience the training provides an comprehensive introduction to working with unaccompanied children.

Learning styles

We use a range of different tools from videos, quizzes, group discussion and case studies to cater to all learning styles and attention spans. We can adapt all resources to meet the needs of different learning needs.

"I really enjoyed the interactive nature of the workshop and learning from all participants experiences and perspectives."



"The content was excellent, really well researched and all very relevant."



What will I leave the training with?

- Understanding of why children leave their homes alone, or how they become separated.
- Awareness and insight into the common experiences of unaccompanied children, including the risks and challenges they face, and traumatic experiences they endure.
- How they travel across borders, and why unaccompanied children arrive in the UK.
- An understanding of the impacts these journeys have on unaccompanied children, shaping their needs and behaviour.
- What this means for our practice, including a practical list of "dos" and "don'ts", for working with unaccompanied children, based on Refugee Youth Services frontline experience and learning.
- An increased level of confidence in working with unaccompanied children in the UK.
- A certificate of attendance for ongoing CPD requirements.

"A thought provoking opportunity to deepen understanding and insight into the harsh reality of life for unaccompanied displaced young, and for the collective to work towards the common purpose of guiding displaced children to safety" Raj - Techfugees, CEO



What isn't covered?

This training touches on but does not cover asylum or social care processes and procedures in the UK, or the trafficking of children into the UK. If you'd like to attend training that covers these, there are trainings from other providers that we can signpost you to.

Duration & Pricing

The price and duration of the training is determined by the group size and the incomes of participant organisations. 2.5 hours per part is recommended but the training is adaptable to the constraints of your organisation. Individuals can book onto our monthly mixed group sessions. We offer group booking discounts.

We don't want cost to be a barrier to accessing this vital capacitybuilding training. Any profits made go directly to supporting children on the move across Europe through the work of RYS and its partners.



Get in touch to find out more about our availability or learn more about what we can offer.

E-mail us: roseanna@refugeeyouthservice.org

Or book a short presentation: tinyurl.com/RYSjourney



What participants say

It has been great to draw direct links between the experiences of children and their needs and behaviours once in the UK

Dalia - Comic Relief, Portfolio Manager

I have been strengthened by the wealth of expertise and knowledge shared through this training and have developed new ideas for supporting my current mentee

Paul - Social Worker & Young Person's Mentor

I now have a toolkit of information that will enable me to act as an advocate for unaccompanied children, the importance of equality of access to accommodation, and the need for trauma informed support that is relevant to their journey

Stevie - Livewest The Foyer, Area Manager

The training has been an incredible opportunity to reconnect with the stories and journeys that I have become desensitised to over the years

Claudia - Red Cross Italy, Legal Advisor

