



## Ideas for Registered Intermediary Training put together by IfJ committee

### Principles

1. The training should be spread out over number of weeks. There is too much information to be taken in over a few full days. There could be one session a week lasting 4 hours.
  - a. The training involved includes acquiring new skills and knowledge, as well as adapting/transferring previous knowledge and skills in a different context.
  - b. Skill based practice can only be acquired over time through observation, shadowing, and modifying own practice based on feedback from more experienced colleagues.
2. The trainee should be required to observe at least one or two whole trials and at least cross examination of two vulnerable witnesses prior to or during the training
3. The trainee should have face to face meetings with a practising RI
4. Most importantly, if the course is not adequate there will be problems with retention.

Week	Topic	Who	On line study	Other activities
			Before and during training	Also include:
Week 1 4 hours	Introduction by intermediary to scheme Introduction to role Watch clip of video of 'A question of Practice' (which shows 13 year old boy witness being cross examined badly and tripping himself up as a result)	RI	The history of the scheme could be studied prior to or during attendance at training?	Discussion re expectations in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• time management if working in part time capacity</li> <li>• court dates changing unexpectedly</li> </ul>
Week 2 4 hours	Assessment, report and recommendations for VRI and discussion re assisting during VRI Watch video clip of RI <b>assessing</b> a child and adult witness	RI and police officer	View assessment protocols and best practice reports	Minimum standards in terms of what the written report should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• look like i.e. the form/presentation</li> <li>• the content</li> </ul>
Week 3 4 hours	Language and communication Anxiety and trauma Strategies for self and other regulation  How they apply to intermediary role	SLT Psycho Therapist/ psychologist RI	Read literature to do with language and communication/ mental health and issues appropriate to VRI and trial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Functions of questions (not just structure/ type)</li> <li>• Possible power imbalance</li> </ul>
Week 4 4 hours	Legal issues Police guidelines Watch video clip of RI <b>acting in professional capacity</b> at <u>ABE interview</u>	RI and police officer	Read police guidelines Types of questions - open, closed and leading	

Week 5 4 hours	<p>RI involvement at trial. Writing report for trial Ground Rules Hearings Court Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activity: Making recommendations re cross examination questions</li> <li>• Watch video of RI acting <b>in professional capacity</b> at Court</li> <li>• Into Case law</li> </ul>	RI Advocate and Judge	<p>Read the Advocates Gateway and the Toolkits.</p> <p>Read information re requirements of role such as insurance and data protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit to Witness Service suite</li> <li>• Trainee should already have viewed a trial</li> </ul>
Week 6 4 hours	<p>Summary and discussion Assessment of trainee by demonstrating skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mock ABE</li> <li>• Mock Trial</li> </ul>	RI Police Advocate		
After training (for first 6 months post qualification)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RI should shadow a practising RI in at least one ABE interview and 1 trial.</li> <li>2. Mentor should shadow/ support the NQRI in the NQRI's own (preferably 1<sup>st</sup>) ABE and own (preferably 1<sup>st</sup>) trial, in order to provide specific feedback, encouragement and/suggestions.</li> <li>3. NQRI should Skype/ meet their mentor as needed but not less than once a fortnight for the first 3 months</li> <li>4. Six month probationary period</li> <li>5. <u>Attendance</u> at minimum two meetings a year (not just being member of) local peer support group</li> <li>6. <b>C</b>ompletion of yearly CPD log (which should be modified from its current form)</li> </ol>	RI		<p>Commitment to organise and pay for own supervision</p> <p>Practical activity sessions i.e. use of communication aids / speaking up during ground rules hearings</p>

IfJ Committee - November 2016