

**8th and 9th June  
2023**  
**thestudio, Glasgow**

**Registration: 3 day course — £649**

Early bird for first 10 delegates booking through the website— £599

Full payment is required at the time of registration.

Deadline for registration is 25th of May to allow time for the online learning prior to face to face sessions.

- \* To book your place go to:  
[therapy-links.co.uk/training](http://therapy-links.co.uk/training)
- \* For more information contact us on:  
[training@therapy-links.co.uk](mailto:training@therapy-links.co.uk)
- \* For TLUK's cancellation and refund policy go to:  
[www.therapy-links.co.uk/training](http://www.therapy-links.co.uk/training)

**Venue: thestudioglasgow**

67 Hope St, Glasgow, G2 6AE.

\* Located less than 2 min walk from Glasgow's Central Station.

\* For more detailed travel information please go to  
[studiovenues.co.uk/venues/glasgow/map-directions/](http://studiovenues.co.uk/venues/glasgow/map-directions/)

**SOFFI® :**

## Supporting Oral Feeding in Fragile Infants

A 3-day course for speech & language therapists, doctors, nurses, and other AHPs supporting vulnerable infants in hospital and community settings

1<sup>st</sup> day—9 hours online foundational learning: to be completed beforehand.  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> days—face to face learning:  
8th June (Glasgow): 8:00am—5:00pm  
9th June (Glasgow): 8:00am—3:00pm  
Registration both days at 7:30am





**Feeding  
FUNdamentals™**  
Making Feeding FUNdamentally Better.™



**Therapy Links UK is proud to host Dr Erin Ross, Feeding FUNdamentals Founder and creator of SOFFI®, a holistic feeding program for caregivers in the NICU, for a third time in the UK following the outstanding success of previous years.**

Dr. Ross received her Ph.D from the University of Colorado in 2007, and her Master's Degree in Speech and Language Pathology in 1988. She completed a two-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Section of Nutrition, University of Colorado Denver in 2009.

Dr. Ross has spent over 30 years working with infants and young children who are learning to eat, or who have developed a paediatric feeding disorder. She has worked extensively in the NICU setting, the early intervention/home, and in clinic-based programs. Her work in the NICU and in Early Intervention has focused on shifting attention from volume-driven to infant-led feedings.

Dr. Ross sees early feeding experiences as well as the parent-infant relationship as foundational for a life-long love of eating. Throughout her career, she has developed programs to support the earliest feedings in hospital and early intervention settings, with the goal of decreasing feeding challenges both before and after discharge.

Dr. Ross has published several book and journal articles, and specialised clinically in the areas of feeding skill development, and the etiology and treatment of feeding and growth problems in infants and very young children. She brings over 30 years of experience, and provides a perspective that crosses over the initial hospitalization through the first 5 years of life.

**SOFFI® is an integrated approach to supporting oral feeding in preterm and in medically complex infants, both in the NICU and in the Early Intervention setting.**

This course provides the practitioner with extensive evidence-based information regarding feeding development as well as assessment and intervention strategies. At the end of the course, after passing all of the module quizzes, the participant will be certified as a **SOFFI® Professional**.

Focused on bottle feeding strategies, this course provides immediately applicable practical information to help medical, nursing and therapy professionals better identify and treat the factors that impact on successful oral feeding in this vulnerable population. Utilising a multi-disciplinary approach, both in the NICU and after discharge to community settings through the first 6 months, the course emphasises strategies to facilitate infant abilities and develop caregiver feeding skills. Breastfeeding is emphasised as the best feeding method for infants, so some strategies are given to support this as well.

The objective is to identify feeding readiness and provide intervention strategies from a framework of normal development. A holistic approach integrating the medical complexity of these infants is emphasised, using the BROSS approach and the **SOFFI®**.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- \* Identify necessary components of infant development that indicate a readiness to begin and sustain oral feeding, including physiologic, motor and state organisation.
- \* Discuss the development of oral-motor skills in preterm infants
- \* Describe the interaction between medical and developmental level as they relate to feeding readiness and the progression of normal feeding skill development.
- \* Identify infants who are not following a normal progression in feeding skill development.
- \* Use principles of normal development and developmentally supportive care to facilitate feeding progression, to include contributions of both the family and the professional team.
- \* Identify the influences of various medical conditions on oral feeding success.
- \* Use the BROSS approach to identify the development of oral feeding skills and use the **SOFFI®** to guide feeding decisions and to plan supportive intervention strategies.

**SOFFI® is now delivered as a three-day course.**

The "first day" consisting of 9 hours of foundational material available as online videos, accessible to the participant in the comfort of their own home, along with quizzes. This is a pre-requisite that must be completed by Monday 5th of June to enable participants to attend the 2 in person days led by Dr Erin Ross in Glasgow.

The 2 in-person days are for integration of that material along with case studies and practice of evaluation and therapy. It will mainly focus on practical workshops, case studies, small group discussions, practice