

### News & Information from the Partnership, Partners and beyond...

Issue No. 14 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### **Covid Vaccination Scam**



### National Lockdown Safeguarding updates from Department for Education



## Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018



## Child Exploitation Practitioner Resource and SSP webpage



There have been reports of a new scam where a person receives a text saying they need to book a vaccination appointment and it takes them to a fake NHS form which then asks for their bank details to prove their identity. **The NHS will never ask for peoples banking information.** There is a texting scam leaflet you can <u>download here</u> This scam has also been reported in the <u>media</u>. Please share this information with your service user networks and your teams.

Following the recent UK Government announcement of the national lockdown. The DfE have updated their Safeguarding procedures that schools and FE colleges must follow when teaching remotely, including information about video lessons and live streaming, and planning remote education strategies. The full guidance and information can be found here. Further information including signposting to resources regarding remote learning, remote learning for vulnerable children and reporting concerns can be accessed here.

The DfE has carried out a small update on the 9th December 2020 with factual changes in relation to information sharing, homelessness duty and references to domestic abuse. Some other revisions include:

- definition of safeguarding impairment of health includes mental health,
- potential provision of Early Help if a parent/carer is in custody,
- change of terminology from Contextual Safeguarding to assessment of risk outside the home,
- inclusion of teenage relationship abuse as a factor,
- people in positions of trust, an addition of 'behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

Tri-x have produced an update which outlines the major changes to access <u>click here</u>. To access Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 click here.

Consultation has also opened on <u>Keeping children safe in education</u>: proposed revisions 2021 <u>click here</u> to access.

Helen Vennard and Linda Wyatt, Social Workers working within the Opal Team (Child Exploitation Team) have developed this useful resource to assist those working with children who are at risk of, or who are being exploited. Many of the resources and tools are applicable for all types of exploitation. The areas focused on are:

- Raising Awareness of Sexual and Criminal Exploitation to Assist Professional Response
- Reducing Children's Vulnerability and Improving their Resilience to Assist Professional Response
- Disruption Techniques to Assist Professional Response

Helen and Linda have pre-recorded a short clip on MS Teams to support the use of this resource. Please <u>click here</u> to access the recording and when on the main screen - under 'other join options' click on Attendee. <u>Please note</u> there is a slight delay and background noise at the start for approximately 8 seconds.



**SSP webpage – Child Exploitation** has been updated to provide additional information, guidance and signposting to resources relating to Child Exploitation <u>click here to access</u>.

# Resource pack for sharing learning and improving practice – Professional Curiosity

inquiring
interrogative questioning
scrutifizing wondering
seeking
sploratory sharp Curious
investigatory
Javard-looking interested
penetrating specting doubtful
probing speculative analytical
investigative inquisitive
fact-finding
quizzical studious
searching

Professional curiosity is a golden thread through Safeguarding Partnership learning reviews and audits and is an essential part of safeguarding. It is theme identified locally in both child and adult safeguarding reviews/audits. Nurturing professional curiosity is a fundamental aspect of working together to keep children, young people and adults safe. A lack of professional curiosity can lead to:

- missed opportunities to identify less obvious indicators of vulnerability or significant harm
- assumptions made in assessments of needs and risk which are incorrect and lead to wrong intervention for individuals and families
- ✓ the presenting issues are dealt with in isolation

To access the <u>resource click here</u>. Please share this resource pack widely and use it in team meetings, as part of group/individual supervision or for your own development.

At the end of the presentation there is a feedback form so please provide us with your feedback.

### Graded Care Profile (GCP2) Assessment Tool



GCP2 helps practitioners measure the quality of care a child is receiving and so identify neglect and spot anything that is putting that child at risk of harm. You need to have successfully completed the GCP2 training to use the assessment tool. To date approximately 70 professionals from a range of agencies (such as schools/education, police, children's services) have been trained to use GCP2.

### What are the circumstances for using the GCP2 in Swindon?

GCP2 should be used where there is possible/potential neglect across the multi-agency partnership. This includes to support referrals to other agencies. For example when making a referral about possible/potential neglect to Children's Social Care at level 3 (of the threshold document) or to Early Help at level 2 (threshold document).

As far as possible, a completed GCP2 should accompany the referral or be underway. Where immediate referral/action is required, it may not have been possible to undertake the GCP2 and not having a GCP2 should not preclude a referral being made/accepted. Where an urgent referral is made without a GCP2, the referrer will undertake or contribute to the GCP2 following referral.

Other circumstances may include where a child/young person is placed on a Child Protection Plan under the category of neglect or is placed on a Child Protection Plan under a different category but where neglect is known/suspected.

Some professionals, such as schools, acute health and police may not be in a position to complete a full GCP2 assessment but they may be in position to complete one or more of the 4 areas of care. In circumstances where no GCP2 assessment can be completed, a <a href="Neglect screening tool">Neglect screening tool</a> is available to assist in evidencing neglect concerns.

Further clarification regarding the GCP2 principles for use are detailed within the Principles and FAQ's

The way in which we understand and define neglect can determine how we respond to it. For further information and guidance including the revised <a href="SSP Neglect Framework and Practice Guidance">SSP Neglect Framework and Practice Guidance</a> can be accessed via the <a href="Neglect and GCP2 webpage">Neglect and GCP2 webpage</a>.

### Making Safeguarding Personal

Research in Practice are hosting two webinars to support the implementation of Making Safeguarding Personal. This work has been commissioned by ADASS and the LGA. The aim of the webinars is to raise awareness of the resources available to support Making Safeguarding Personal.

research in practice <u>First webinar</u> (27<sup>th</sup> January, 2pm-4pm) is an overview of the resources available to support MSP, this includes



- Case Study Resources
- Myth busting resources



This will give a refresh of the MSP approach, and will give delegates the opportunity to see the resources and think about how they will use them

in their own practice. You can book here



<u>Second webinar</u> (3<sup>rd</sup> February) is aimed at people who are responsible for the learning and development of other professionals. <u>You can book here</u>

### 7 Minute Briefs



There is an expectation that agencies/professionals will share these resources widely and use them in team meetings, as part of group/individual supervision and for personal professional development. To access them please go to the <a href="SSP training page">SSP training page</a>
New briefs include:

 Suspected Bruising on Children - audio is included with the first slide. This briefing is slightly larger than others as there are some slides regarding child developmental stages.

**Statistics on 'honour-based' abuse offences:** The Home Office has published statistics on 'honour-based' abuse offences recorded by the police in England and Wales. 2% of offences recorded by 30 police forces related to cruelty to children or young persons. Read the report

**Sexual abuse in schools:** The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) has published a report looking at child sexual abuse in schools in England and Wales. Read the report

NSPCC Learning **Poverty and child protection: podcast:** The Association of Child Protection Professionals (AoCPP) has released a podcast discussing the child protection implications of poverty. <u>Listen to the podcast</u>

**Child arrests:** The Howard League for Penal Reform has published findings from responses to a Freedom of Information (FOI) request from 43 police service areas (England, Wales & British Transport Police). Read the research briefing

**Gang related offences:** The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has published guidance on decision making in gang related offences, to give lawyers practical advice on building cases and gathering robust evidence to present to the court. Read the guidance. **NSPCC Learning** - <u>Protecting</u> children from county lines

**Child sexual exploitation:** The Home Office has published a paper, and accompanying literature review, on the characteristics of group-based child sexual exploitation. Read the paper and literature review **NSPCC Learning -** Protecting children from sexual exploitation

**Online safeguarding: the dark web:** The Children's Society have published a guide to the dark web describing what it is, how young people might use it and what to do if you have safety concerns. Read the guide

**Child sexual abuse:** The Lucy Faithfull Foundation has released a series of short films that aim to inform parents and carers about the risks of child sexual abuse and how to reduce them. View the short films

**Coronavirus: child protection conferences** Nuffield Family Justice Observatory has published a report, based on research by King's College London, on the impact of coronavirus restrictions in England and Wales on child protection conferences. Read the report

**Coronavirus:** A coalition of children's organisations have published findings from an international survey into the impact of coronavirus on children's lives. Read the full report

**Coronavirus:** Ofsted has published its final set of reports looking at the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on children and young people. Read the reports **NSPCC Learning** Ofsted publishes new briefing series on COVID-19 interim visits

Coronavirus: advice to help young people during the pandemic. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCP) have published advice for young people signposting when and where they should seek help during the coronavirus pandemic. Read the news story

**Coronavirus: impact on families living in temporary accommodation.**Shelter has published a report looking at the impact on families of living in temporary accommodation during lockdown. Read the report

**Gender stereotyping:** The Commission on Gender Stereotypes in Early Childhood has published a report looking at gender expectations and gender stereotypes in the UK. Read the report

**Attitudes to education and children's services:** The Department for Education (DfE) has published a report looking at attitudes of the public in England, Scotland and Wales to education and children's services.

Read the report

**Safeguarding: the role of soap operas:** The Ann Craft Trust has published a news story discussing the role of TV and radio soap operas in raising awareness about safeguarding issues including child grooming, domestic abuse and modern slavery in their storylines. Read the news story

SSP

**Virtual Classroom** 

Please keep checking the SSP website for the on-line and virtual learning available. Visit the <u>virtual courses & eLearning page of the SSP website</u>. Spaces still available for the following courses.

- Managing Allegations 02.02.21
- Working with Resistant Families 23.02.21 (this is suitable for update training)

	Polite reminder: if you book a place on a course and subsequently need to cancel the booking please follow the instructions on your confirmation email. Please give as much notice as possible as this allows us to fill the place. Please be aware that any delegate failing to attend a course or cancelling a place without 10 working days' notice will incur charges. Further information regarding the cancellation policy can be found here.
FIRST LIGHT  Demostic About and Second Violence Support for All	First Light have released their Impact Report, which outlines their work in 2019/20. To access the report <u>click here</u> . Information about the Swindon and Wiltshire Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) is included (page 22).
Useful Resources Safeguarding Adults	Resources available include: <u>Updated: Eligibility determination for the Care Act 2014</u> . The aim of this guide is to build on the Care Act statutory guidance by outlining what local authorities need to consider when making an eligibility determination, using the national eligibility criteria. It summarises the process and key elements to consider when making an eligibility determination for an adult requiring care, as well as bringing useful resources together. <u>Click here to access.</u>
social care institute for excellence	Free eLearning resources including:  Reablement for care workers Independent advocacy under the Care Act 2014 Dementia Awareness Personalisation
A QUESTS	If you have any information that can be included within the fortnightly SSP newsletter please send the information to the <a href="mailto:safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk">safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk</a>

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Although we are still not able to put on any face-to-face training we are expanding the range of topics for which we have on-line learning available through our website: <a href="mailto:safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/training">safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/training</a>