

**Dudley’s Audit Programme 2020 / 2021**

1. **Context**

The purpose of this document is to provide staff with a clear schedule for Dudley’s Audit Programme, including audit themes, allocation dates and submission dates; and to set out the training available to achieve improved practice with children and families.

The programme involves Managers and Independent Reviewing Officers across Children’s Social Care completing one audit per month, and Dudley’s Centre for Professional Practice completing 25 dip samples per month. The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Service and the Early Help Service will be completing audits in their areas. Audits will be completed jointly with Allocated Practitioners to enable a richer, reflective learning experience. Following audits being completed, Managers will hold ‘support and challenge’ conversations with practitioners to discuss the core elements of the audit, set a stretch target, and ensure all recommended actions are undertaken.

Dudley’s Centre for Professional Practice will moderate 20% of all Children’s Social Care audits completed. Those audits identified as ‘Inadequate’ will be subject to moderation and followed up by Heads of Service, the Assistant Director, and the Director for Children’s Services. Dudley’s Centre for Professional Practice will share audit findings with the service at the end of each month using a 7 Minute Briefing.

Manager Audit Workshops will be delivered throughout the year to enhance consistency across the auditing process; and moderation panels will take place 6 times a year to review the quality of audit. Quarterly meetings will be held to triangulate audit findings, training, and practice guidance to inform service development.

1. **Audit Process and Liquid Logic**
2. **Audit Programme 2021**

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| Month / Year | Audit Focus | Audit Allocation Date  | Audit Return Date | 7 Minute Briefing Date | Training Plan |
| **January 2021** | Children’s Social CarePlans Early Help Early Help Family Support Plans | 4th January 2021 | 26th January 2021 | 29th January 2021 | * SMART Planning Training
* E – Person Education Plan Training
* Permanency Planning Training
* Independent Reviewing Officer Training
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
 |
| **February 2021** | Children’s Social CareSupervision Early Help Supervision | 1st February 2021 | 22nd February 2021 | 26th February 2021  | * Core Skills Managers Training
* Practice Development Supervisor Programme
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
 |
| **March 2021**  | Children’s Social Care9 Month Child Protection Plans / Pre ProceedingsEarly HelpFamily Support Plans, Team Around the Family Meetings (TAF), Step Up / Step Down progression of work (3-9 months)  | 1st March 2021 | 22nd March 2021  | 31st March 2021 | * Assessment and Analysis Training
* Disguised Compliance Training
* Neglect Training
* Graded Care Profile 2 Training
* Permanency Planning Training
* SMART Planning Training
* Independent Reviewing Officer Training
* Core Skills Managers Training
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
* Signs and Indicators of Child Trafficking and National Referral Mechanism Training
* Conception to Adolescence Brain Development and Working with Children and Families
 |
| **April 2021** | Children’s Social Care Permanency PlanningEarly Help Permanency planning from Multi Agency Action Meeting (MAAM) to closure.  SENDMulti Agency and Partner Audit of Education Health Care Plans process agreed to focus on their quality for the revised format being used. | 6th April 2021  | 27th April 2021 | 30th April 2021 | * Permanency Planning Training
* Achieving Permanence Training
* Independent Reviewing Officer Training
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
* Conception to Adolescence Brain Development and Working with Children and Families
 |
| **May 2021** | Children’s Social CareMulti Agency / Direct Work in Assessments Early HelpMulti Agency / Direct Work in Assessments  | 4th May 2021 | 25th May 2021 | 28th May 2021 | * Assessment and Analysis Training
* Life Story Work Training
* Total Respect Training
* Early Help – Refusal to Engage Training
* Adoption@Heart Workshops
* Kooth Workshops
* Advanced Child Sexual Exploitation Training
* PREVENT Training
* Neglect Training
* Graded Care Profile 2 Training
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Signs and Indicators of Child Trafficking and National Referral Mechanism Training
* Restorative Practice Training
* Conception to Adolescence Brain Development and Working with Children and Families
 |
| **June 2021** | Children’s Social CareDecision-Making and Management OversightEarly HelpDecision-Making and Management Oversight | 1st June 2021 | 22nd June 2021 | 30th June 2021 | * Core Skills Managers Training
* Practice Development Supervisor Programme
* Independent Reviewing Officer Training
* Responding to Complaints Training
* Practice Educator Workshops
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
* Supervision Training – Strengthening Practice
 |
| **July 2021** | Children’s Social CarePlans Early Help Early Help Family Support PlansSENDMulti Agency and Partner Audit of Education Health Care Plans agreed to focus on their quality for Health Sections C and G | 1st July 2021 | 22nd July 2021 | 30th July 2021 | * SMART Planning Training
* E – Person Education Plan Training
* Permanency Planning Training
* Independent Reviewing Officer Training
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
* Conception to Adolescence Brain Development and Working with Children and Families
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| **August 2021** | Children’s Social CareSupervision Early Help Supervision | 2nd August 2021 | 23rd August 2021 | 31st August 2021 | * Core Skills Managers Training
* Practice Development Supervisor Programme
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
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| **September 2021**  | Children’s Social Care9 Month Child Protection Plans / Pre ProceedingsEarly HelpFamily Support Plans, Team Around the Family Meetings (TAF), Step Up / Step Down progression of work (3-9 months)  | 1st September 2021 | 22nd September 2021 | 30th September 2021 | * Assessment and Analysis Training
* Disguised Compliance Training
* Neglect Training
* Graded Care Profile 2 Training
* Permanency Planning Training
* SMART Planning Training
* Independent Reviewing Officer Training
* Core Skills Managers Training
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
* Signs and Indicators of Child Trafficking and National Referral Mechanism Training
* Conception to Adolescence Brain Development and Working with Children and Families
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| **October 2021** | Children’s Social Care Permanency PlanningEarly Help Permanency planning from Multi Agency Action Meeting (MAAM) to closure.  SENDMulti Agency and Partner Audit of Education Health Care Plans process agreed to focus on their quality for the revised format being used. | 4th October 2021 | 25th October 2021 | 29th October 2021 | * Permanency Planning Training
* Achieving Permanence Training
* Independent Reviewing Officer Training
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
* Conception to Adolescence Brain Development and Working with Children and Families
 |
| **November 2021** | Children’s Social CareMulti Agency / Direct Work in Assessments Early HelpMulti Agency / Direct Work in Assessments  | 1st November 2021 | 22nd November 2021 | 30th November 2021 | * Assessment and Analysis Training
* Life Story Work Training
* Total Respect Training
* Early Help – Refusal to Engage Training
* Adoption@Heart Workshops
* Kooth Workshops
* Advanced Child Sexual Exploitation Training
* PREVENT Training
* Neglect Training
* Graded Care Profile 2 Training
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
* Signs and Indicators of Child Trafficking and National Referral Mechanism Training
* Conception to Adolescence Brain Development and Working with Children and Families
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| **December 2021** | Children’s Social CareDecision-Making and Management OversightEarly HelpDecision-Making and Management OversightSENDMulti Agency and Partner Audit of Education Health Care Plans agreed to focus on their quality | 1st December 2021 | 17th December 2021 | 22nd December 2021 | * Core Skills Managers Training
* Practice Development Supervisor Programme
* Independent Reviewing Officer Training
* Responding to Complaints Training
* Practice Educator Workshops
* Research in Practice Drop in Clinics
* CPP Drop in Clinics
* Restorative Practice Training
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1. **CPP Dip Sample Programme 2021**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Month / Year | CPP Dip Sample Focus | Audit Allocation Date | 7 Minute Briefing Date |
| **January 2021** | **The timeliness and quality of decision-making in the MASH**1. Was the response to the contact timely?
2. Was decision-making timely?
3. Was the decision made appropriate to the presenting risks and needs of the child?

**The timeliness of Strategy Meetings and the quality of recording**1. Was the Strategy Meeting timely?
2. Was the recording of the actions needed clear with appropriate timescales?
 | 25th January 2021  | 29th January 2021  |
| **February 2021** | **The quality of assessment, and the voice of the child**1. Does the Assessment provide an analysis of the impact of the concerns upon the child, their health and development, and their longer term outcomes?
2. Does the child’s voice and lived experiences influence planning?
 | 22nd February 2021  | 26th February 2021  |
| **March 2021**  | **The quality of Child in Need / Child Protection Plans** 1. Does the Child in Need / Child Protection Plan have clear, child focussed, and timebound actions?

**The progression of Child Protection Plans, Pre- Proceedings, and Care Proceedings**1. In circumstances where the child’s situation has not improved, is there timely progression to Legal Gateway Panel?
2. Is there timely progression to the Pre-Proceedings stage of the Public Law Outline process?
3. Is the decision to place the child in care timely?
 | 22nd March 2021  | 31st March 2021 |
| **April 2021** | **The progression, timeliness, and effectiveness of permanency planning** 1. Is there a clear plan of permanency for the child?
2. Is the permanency plan being progressed and is this intervention timely?
3. Is there sufficient oversight and grip of permanence planning?
 | 27th April 2021 | 30th April 2021 |
| **May 2021** | **The quality of support to reduce risk for children at risk of non familial abuse or exploitation** 1. Is there an effective support package in place for the child to reduce risk?
2. Is there evidence of professionals working together across the partnership to reduce risk?
3. In cases where children go missing, is there evidence of effective integration between Children’s Services and the Police?

**The quality and impact of supervision** 1. Is there evidence of clear direction to the Social Worker to progress the child’s plan and prioritise risk?
2. Is there evidence of reflection?
 | 25th May 2021 | 28th May 2021 |
| **June 2021** | **The effectiveness of quality assurance and advocacy arrangements**1. Does the Independent Reviewing Officer have sufficient quality assurance and advocacy oversight of the child’s care plan?
2. Is there evidence of the Independent Reviewing Officer challenging the Local Authority in situations where there is drift and delay?
3. Is this challenge effective in addressing drift and delay?
 | 22nd June 2021 | 30th June 2021 |
| **July 2021** | **The timeliness and quality of decision-making in the MASH**1. Was the response to the contact timely?
2. Was decision-making timely?
3. Was the decision made appropriate to the presenting risks and needs of the child?

**The timeliness of Strategy Meetings and the quality of recording**1. Was the Strategy Meeting timely?
2. Was the recording of the actions needed clear with appropriate timescales?
 | 22nd July 2021 | 30th July 2021 |
| **August 2021** | **The quality of assessment and analysis, and the voice of the child**1. Does the Assessment provide an analysis of the impact of the concerns upon the child, their health and development, and their longer term outcomes?
2. Does the child’s voice and lived experiences influence planning?
 | 23rd August 2021 | 31st August 2021 |
| **September 2021**  | **The quality of Child in Need / Child Protection Plans** 1. Does the Child in Need / Child Protection Plan have clear, child focussed, and timebound actions?

**The progression of Child Protection Plans, Pre- Proceedings, and Care Proceedings**1. In circumstances where the child’s situation has not improved, is there timely progression to Legal Gateway Panel?
2. Is there timely progression to the Pre-Proceedings stage of the Public Law Outline process?
3. Is the decision to place the child in care timely?
 | 22nd September 2021 | 30th September 2021 |
| **October 2021** | **The progression, timeliness, and effectiveness of permanency planning** 1. Is there a clear plan of permanency for the child?
2. Is the permanency plan being progressed and is this intervention timely?
3. Is there sufficient oversight and grip of permanence planning?
 | 25th October 2021 | 29th October 2021 |
| **November 2021** | **The quality of support to reduce risk for children at risk of non familial abuse or exploitation** 1. Is there an effective support package in place for the child to reduce risk?
2. Is there evidence of professionals working together across the partnership to reduce risk?
3. In cases where children go missing, is there evidence of effective integration between Children’s Services and the Police?

**The quality and impact of supervision** 1. Is there evidence of clear direction to the Social Worker to progress the child’s plan and prioritise risk?
2. Is there evidence of reflection?
 | 22nd November 2021 | 30th November 2021 |
| **December 2021** | **The effectiveness of quality assurance and advocacy arrangements**1. Does the Independent Reviewing Officer have sufficient quality assurance and advocacy oversight of the child’s care plan?
2. Is there evidence of the Independent Reviewing Officer challenging the Local Authority in situations where there is drift and delay?
3. Is this challenge effective in addressing drift and delay?
 | 17th December 2021 | 22nd December 2021 |