

Welcome to the WSSCP Email Bulletin September 2020



We have recently upgraded our website to ensure we adhere to accessibility requirements. We have also introduced a Professional Zone section. This section requires a username and password and is designed to hold information that is not appropriate to be available to the general public. This may include, reports, documents and resources relating to a variety of subjects.

If you are a professional and would like to request a username and password to be able to access this area of the website please email me at Lucy.Short@westsussex.gov.uk.

Legacy SCRs

West Sussex have four legacy Serious Case Reviews SCR U, SCR V, SCR N and SCR S that had been commissioned by the legacy Safeguard Board but were not published due to criminal proceedings. The Safeguarding Partnership **have** published the Reports, the Partnership Response and Learning Briefings for Serious Case Reviews Child V and Child U today. They can be found here: <https://www.westsussexscp.org.uk/reviews/west-sussex>.

In relation to SCR N and SCR S, the Learning Briefings will be published on the Practitioners Zone of the WSSCP website. In addition, there will be virtual briefing sessions offered in November to disseminate the learning and key themes from Serious Case Reviews and Local Learning Reviews. Watch this space for more details including how to book your place.

Knowledge
is
power!



As mentioned in the August Email Bulletin, we have developed a new training course, designed to develop your skills and confidence around Professional Curiosity. This course is being delivered online and is an interactive webinar presented by experienced professionals who will use case studies, multi-agency discussions and a range of resources to enable you to explore this important skill in order to improve your safeguarding practice. Click on the link below to view the dates available and book your place: [WSSCP Professional Curiosity Training Dates](#)



We have transferred our 1 day Neglect training into 2 x 3 hour interactive sessions. This training will provide you with an opportunity to explore the often challenging topic of neglect, try the tools and resources and see neglect from the child's perspective as well as have the opportunity to network with professionals from other agencies. To book your place click on the link below. Please note that in order to complete the course and receive your attendance certificate, you must attend both dates.

[WSSCP Neglect Training Dates](#)



Another training session now available to book onto is Gangs, Youth Violence and Criminal Exploitation. This is delivered through Excelsior Training and available to all those working across the children and young people's workforce to raise awareness of this current issue. Click on the link below to find out more and book your place;

[Gangs, Youth Violence and Criminal Exploitation Training Dates](#)



Occasionally there may be times when workers from one agency feel that the decisions made by workers in another agency are either not safe or not in the best interests of the child. As professionals it is important we ask questions if we do not understand or would like more information in order to make an informed decision. Professional challenge and curiosity is a key part of effective safeguarding practice within joint agency working. The WSSCP have an escalation policy that outlines what needs to happen if professionals do not agree with a decision made by another agency relating to a child. To find out more click on the link below. Please note the WSSCP Escalation Policy is to be used between external agencies. If you need to escalate a concern within your own agency, please use your internal escalation process.

[WSSCP Escalation Process](#)

ICON



Abusive Head Trauma (AHT), previously known as Shaken Baby Syndrome, is a devastating form of child abuse.

The ICON Programme is a preventative programme, based around helping parents cope with a crying baby. The word 'ICON' represents the following message:

I – Infant crying is normal

C – Comforting methods can sometimes soothe the baby

O – It's OK to walk away

N – Never, ever shake a baby

The WSSCP have been promoting this programme since April and with the restrictions brought by COVID19, it is now more important than ever to share with families and in particular Dads and male carers. There are a wealth of resources available on the WSSCP website to access by clicking on the link below:

[ICON Resources to share with parents and carers](#)

There is also an excellent short clip specifically aimed at Dads and male carers by the NHS called "Lift the Baby". You may have already seen this on the TV or YouTube. At only 1 minute and 30 seconds long it is an excellent resource to share and really gets the message across in an easy to understand way. Click on the link below and please share this via your newsletters, Twitter feeds or messages to parents.

[Lift the Baby short clip](#)



New service for West Sussex children missing out on vital support due to Covid-19

A vital new service is being provided for West Sussex children and young people who are missing out on support during the coronavirus pandemic.

'See, Hear, Respond', managed by Barnardo's and funded by the Department for Education, is a new programme offering online counselling, therapy and face-to-face support.

Anyone can refer a child or young person to the service, which is free and confidential.

It aims to provide a "lifeline" for children and young people who are victims of sexual and domestic abuse, criminal exploitation, those struggling with their mental health, children with special educational needs and disabilities, young carers, and those needing help with reintegrating back into school.

Barnardo's is leading a coalition of charities working alongside local authorities, schools, colleges, police forces and healthcare professionals across England.

A telephone and online referral service will refer any concerns about a vulnerable child to the local partner organisation best-placed to help.

Barnardo's regional director Emma Bowman said: "The coronavirus pandemic has meant that vulnerable children and young people have been 'hidden' from vital support services.

"Many have been suffering in silence and are in danger of being left behind if their needs are not met.

Believe in
children
Barnardo's

“That’s why Barnardo’s is leading a consortium of more than 30 charities to identify and support children at risk of harm.

“But for this to work, we need professionals – and anyone in contact with vulnerable children – to be our eyes and ears and refer those in need of help.

“Children have too often been unseen and unheard during this crisis and they risk becoming the forgotten victims.

“This initiative is a vital lifeline which will help them to navigate the pandemic and its aftermath, improving their long-term prospects so they can enjoy a successful future.”

For further information on the See, Hear and Respond service, visit www.barnardos.org.uk/see-hear-respond

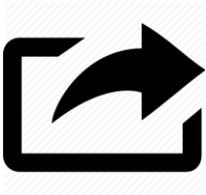
Helplines are open Monday-Friday from 9am-9pm and at weekends from 10am-6pm. Call 0800 157 7015.



NSPCC

The NSPCC have information on their website about supporting children during the current pandemic. This includes keeping in touch with children virtually and dealing with disclosures of abuse or neglect. To visit this page on the NSPCC website click on the link below:

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and keeping children safe from abuse NSPCC](#)



If you have any information that you would like to share in future bulletins please contact me directly using the email below.

Kind Regards,

Lucy



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