

Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Board

Newsletter

Summer 2018

Update from the Chair...



Greetings and welcome to the summer edition of the PSCB newsletter. This is my first newsletter having taken over from Reg last summer. Walking into a role like this can be both daunting and rewarding. What has impressed me are the number of talented people committed to making children in Portsmouth safer. Being young in 2018 is not easy, but keeping young people safe is what we do and we are proud to do so.

As a Board, like other LSCBs across England, we are exploring our options as a result of the recent Children and Social Work Act 2017. However, what was clear from all of our partners is that we must not lose our sovereignty for

Portsmouth and we continue to build on the many things we do well.

In this edition we will be saying hello to our new Training Manager, Sam, and informing you of the dates for the Safeguarding Training Programme for the rest of this year. In addition to this, the newsletter will provide you with the latest child safeguarding updates, resources and materials to assist you in your professional work.

Earlier in the year we met with an incredible Care Leaver who was with us for a day. She provided some really helpful feedback on our work and in particular reviewed our PSCB website. As a result of this, and wider consultation with our partners and community, we are now changing the website to be DDA compliant, easier to navigate and more relevant for our children, young people and families in Portsmouth.

When I took this role on, I made a number of commitments, one of them was to listen to our young people and this remains one on my key pledges for the future. I will continue to listen and keep you informed over the next year, I wish you all well and once again thank you for subscribing and showing an interest to keep children safe in Portsmouth

Update from the Business Unit

We have sadly had to say goodbye to both our Training Administrator, Monika Lowerre who will shortly be starting a new life in Canada; and our Training Manager, Helen Sewell who has moved on to Portsmouth University as a Teaching Fellow on their Social Work degree programme.

We have had the pleasure of welcoming Sam Nesbit to the team as our new Safeguarding Training Manager. Some of you may remember Sam from her previous role as Children's Workforce Development Officer when she helped develop our multi-agency training programme.



Useful Contact Details

Website: www.portsmouthscb.org.uk

Board email: pscb@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Training email: pscbtraining@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

PSCB 023 9284 1540

Training 023 9268 8338

MASH 0845 671 0271

PSCB Multi Agency Safeguarding Training Programme



In response to requests from several agencies the PSCB will now be publishing the dates of all upcoming multi-agency safeguarding training courses.

We are working to develop an online booking system and will be in touch shortly with details of how this will work. In the meantime, please continue to use the booking form which is available from the [Training section](#) of the PSCB website.

Where there is more than one date available for the course you wish to attend, please indicate which date you'd prefer in the box that asks whether you have any additional needs. This form should then be emailed in the usual way to pscbtraining@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Basic Awareness	18th September	9:00-12:30
	9th October	13:00-16:30
	20th November	9:00-12:30
Early Help	20th September	9:00-16:30
	13th November	9:00-16:30
Child Protection	19th September	9:00-16:30
	4th October	9:00-16:30
	18th October	9:00-16:30
	14th November	9:00-16:30
Managers	3rd October	9:00-16:30
Supervision	21st & 22nd	9:00-16:30 (21st) 9:00-13:00 (22nd)
	November	
DSL	10th September	9:00-16:30
Vulnerable Children (missing, exploited and trafficked)	6th November	9:00-16:00



4LSCB Procedures Update

As part of the 4LSCB Online Procedures update in June 2018, a new chapter has been added to give information about the [NHS - CPIS \(Child Protection Information Sharing\)](#) system. There is also a new [Information Guide on Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Children](#)

In addition the following Practice Guidance has been updated: [Children from Abroad](#), [Dangerous Dogs & Safeguarding Children](#), [Gang Activity](#), [Youth Violence and Criminal Exploitation Affecting Children](#) and [Trafficked Children](#)

All policies can be found on the [4LSCB online procedure site](#) where you can sign up for updates. **Please ensure this information is disseminated within your organisation.**

Revision of the Early Help Assessment & Review Paperwork

The Portsmouth 'Early Help' assessment is the framework to ensuring that children and families receive the right support at the right time, enabling families to identify strengths and areas of need. We recognise the hard work and commitment that Lead Professionals across the Partnership are offering to families within Portsmouth to help them make sustainable changes.

Recording the work you do with families by using the Early Help assessment and review paperwork is really helpful for three reasons:

- It helps to structure and focus that work for families (most important)
- It provides evidence on the level of need for support across the city
- It enables payment by result claims to be made under the Troubled Families programme, supporting continued intensive early help services for the most vulnerable families.

As a local authority we are committed to ensuring that this process reflects local priorities, complies with recent changes in the law and meets the needs of our families. We have therefore revised the Portsmouth Early Help assessment and review paperwork in line with these principles.



The key reasons for the current amendments are:

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The new regulation came into force on 25 May 2018 and sits alongside the current Data Protection Act, this new amendment is the biggest change in data protection in 20 years.

GDPR intends to improve how personal data is protected and to harmonize data privacy laws across Europe. It will affect how we in the council process and control personal data, including data captured and recorded in Early Help assessments and reviews.

Therefore we have revised the current version in line with the new guidance to ensure that we are compliant with the new data and privacy laws.

Troubled Families programme

The Early Help assessment is also used to identify where families may be eligible to be attached to the troubled families programme. If a minimum of two out of the six headline criteria are met, the family will be attached and monitored throughout their early help journey to evidence progress.

We have revised the current checklist within the assessment to reflect local priorities and also in line with recent changes that have been made to the Troubled Families outcomes. We have also tried to simplify this process for the professionals who are completing the assessment.

Please see the attached 'One Minute Guide' (OMG) for further information regarding the troubled families programme.

The updated version of the assessment and the One Minute Guide have been emailed to you along with this newsletter; and will also be available on the PSCB website:

<http://www.portsmouthscb.org.uk/professionals/resources-for-frontline-professional/>

Please share these recent changes with your colleagues who are working directly with families.

If you have any questions regarding these changes please contact Fran Shaul, Troubled Families Quality Assurance practitioner, 023 9268 8746 fran.shaul@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2018

The revised statutory guidance for schools and colleges, that will commence 3rd September 2018, has been published by the Department for Education.

This guidance is for:

- headteachers, teachers and staff
- governing bodies, proprietors and management committees



It sets out the legal duties you must follow to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people under the age of 18 in schools and colleges.

Throughout the new guidance contains additional information on the use of “must” (when the person in question is legally required to do something) and “should” (when the advice set out should be followed unless there is good reason not to). Below is a summary of some of the key changes in the new guidance:

Part one: Safeguarding information for all staff

- **The role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** - This section now gives clearer information about the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and their deputies. For example, the section now stipulates that the identity of the DSL and any deputies should be shared at induction.
- **Policies within school** - The new guidance states that all staff should be aware of systems within their school or college which support safeguarding, and that these should be explained to them as part of staff induction. The behaviour policy has now been included in this mandatory list that have to be explained at induction. The list is now updated to include:
 - the child protection policy
 - **the behaviour policy**
 - the staff behaviour policy (sometimes called a code of conduct)
 - the safeguarding response to children who go missing from education
- **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** - The paragraph on FGM clarifies that it is a **legal** requirement on teachers to report concerns.

Part two: The management of safeguarding

- **Multi Academy Trust schools, child protection policies** - The new guidance document makes it clear that all schools and colleges should have their own individual child protection policy and that these reflect local circumstances. Multiple schools can have an overarching child protection policy, but local procedures and protocols should be reflected.
- **Peer-on-peer abuse** - Peer on peer abuse is one of the key themes of changes in KCSIE 2018. An update has been part two, paragraph 90, to reflect the importance of Child Protection policies reflecting peer-on-peer abuse.
- **Contact numbers** - New guidance states that where reasonably possible, schools should have more than one emergency contact number for their pupils and students.
- **Safer recruitment** - The guidance now clarifies that at least one of the persons who conducts an interview has completed safer recruitment training.
- **DSLs** - The role of the DSL should be more clear, including who the DSL should be, the responsibilities of the DSL in regard to child protection files, reflect DSL responsibility when considering information sharing in advance of transferring Child Protection files.
- **Looked after children and previously looked after children** - This is a new section on the new requirements around previously looked after children highlighting the fact that they remain vulnerable.
- **The ‘use of reasonable force’** - Clarity is given on when it may be necessary to use reasonable force and also the need to minimise reasonable force, particularly with SEN pupils.

Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2018

Part three – Safer recruitment

- This now contains new information clarifying the responsibility on schools when working with alternative provision providers. There is also a revised checklist about checks for **contractors**. For **Volunteers** the new guidance provides additional links that signpost to the DBS workforce guides.
- Clarity is also given on the minimum information that must be recorded on a Single Central Record (SCR). Clarity that MATS should ensure the SCR is accessible to those entitled to examine that information.
- The term **homestay** has been introduced which applies to children staying with host families.

Part four - Allegations of abuse made against teachers and other staff - Very limited changes.

Part five: Child on child sexual violence and sexual harassment- A whole new section has been included in the statutory guidance. This shows the importance that the DfE are placing on peer-on-peer abuse

- Part 5 is there to provide guidance for schools and colleges on how they should respond to reports of child on child sexual violence and sexual harassment.
- In particular governing bodies and proprietors are signposted to an extra publication on sexual violence and harassment between children in schools and colleges - Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges which covers:
 - what sexual violence and sexual harassment is
 - schools' and colleges' legal responsibilities
 - a whole school or college approach to safeguarding and child protection
 - how to respond to reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment.

Annex A - This section has been updated and includes a table of contents.

New information is given on:

- Children and the court system
- Children with family members in prison
- County lines
- Domestic abuse
- Homelessness
- Peer-on-peer abuse
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment



Child E Serious Case Review

In February 2018 the Board published the Overview Report with the findings of the SCR into the tragic death of an 18 day old baby. On the [Case Review](#) section of the PSCB website you can find a copy of this report, as well as a 2 page summary that can be used in training, team meetings etc. to ensure all staff who work with children are aware of the findings.

There were 5 key findings:

1. Better use of early help & intervention - please make sure that you are using the Early Help Assessment where appropriate to ensure families are receiving the right support at the right time
2. The role of supervision for all agencies - as well as offering a training course for supervisors there is 4LSCB guidance on the [Principles & Standards for Safeguarding Supervision](#)
3. Assessment of the impact of specific parental issues (DA, alcohol misuse, parental mental health) - PSCB is working with the PSAB to form a working group to consider how the children's and adults workforce can work together more effectively to safeguard children
4. Exchange of information between agencies - in particular those working with children and families must be familiar with the [Conflict Resolution and Escalation Policy](#). This set out the steps to follow when there are disagreements over the handling of safeguarding concerns.
5. Risks associated with concealed pregnancies - [4LSCB Unborn/Newborn Baby Safeguarding Protocol](#) has been updated, to make clear the appropriate response for a concealed pregnancy.

Reports for Initial Child Protection Conferences

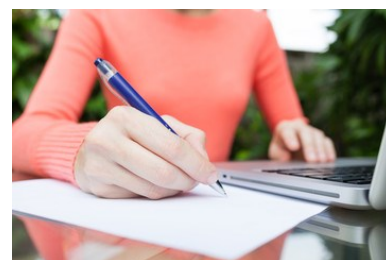
As part of our programme of multi-agency audits, the Board has twice reviewed the quality of reports written for Initial Child Protection Conferences.

The aim of this was to consider whether the standard of recording, assessment and analysis in these reports is sufficient to allow the conference to ascertain the risk and protective factors to the child.

A total of 88 reports were considered over the 2 audits, and of these the overall quality of 46% were considered to be good, 38% adequate and 16% inadequate.

When considering what would help improve the consistency of the quality of these reports, the Board felt it would be helpful to write some guidance to help the workforce understand what should be included in a report.

We now need to hear from you whether this guidance is helpful and whether you have any suggestions to make it even better. Please have a read through the guidance sent along with this newsletter and let us have any comments by **13th July** by emailing us at pscb@portsmouthcc.gov.uk



Updated Inter Agency Contact Form

The Inter-Agency Contact Form has been updated to ensure compliance with the new GDPR rules. The revised IACF is available on the PSCB website professionals' area on the page [Worried about a Child Suffering from Harm?](#)

Please ensure this information is disseminated within your organisation.

Safer Sleep for Babies



We are aware that over the summer holidays, when families are staying away from home their sleeping arrangements for their babies may not be the same as at home. This combined with the warmer weather can increase the risk of death to the baby. To reduce the risk of this happening please remind parents of the [safe sleep advice](#)

Things you can do:

- Always place your baby on their back to sleep
- Keep your baby smoke free during pregnancy and after birth
- Breastfeed your baby, if you can
- Use a firm, flat, waterproof mattress in good condition
- Place your baby to sleep in a separate cot or Moses basket in the same room as you for the first 6 months

Things to avoid:

- Never sleep on a sofa or in an armchair with your baby
- Don't sleep in the same bed as your baby if you smoke, drink, take drugs or are extremely tired, if your baby was born prematurely or was of low-birth weight
- Avoid letting your baby get too hot
- Don't cover your baby's face or head while sleeping or use loose bedding

For further advice and guidance on safer sleeping visit the [Lullaby Trust](#) website

Acknowledgements

Some of the photographs used in this publication have been downloaded free of charge from freedigitalphotos.net