

Safeguarding Children



News from City of York Safeguarding Children Board | December 2017

Welcome

Many of you may know that the long-awaited draft of 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018' has been published by the Department for Health.



This guidance replaces the 2015 version with fundamental changes to come into effect by Spring 2019. These include setting up 'local safeguarding partnerships' as an alternative to Safeguarding Children Boards, as well as arrangements for national and local practice reviews and for the child death review process.

The DfE is welcoming feedback as part of its consultation. Please read and comment on it before 31 December 2017 at <https://consult.education.gov.uk/child-protection-safeguarding-and-family-law/working-together-to-safeguard-children-revisions-t/>.

All the best for Christmas and the new year, and I hope you return from it refreshed and ready to continue our work.

Simon Westwood

Independent Chair of City of York Safeguarding Children Board

Ofsted report on domestic abuse's impact



A new multi-agency report on domestic abuse and its impact on children is calling for a focus on the needs and experiences of children and for early intervention.

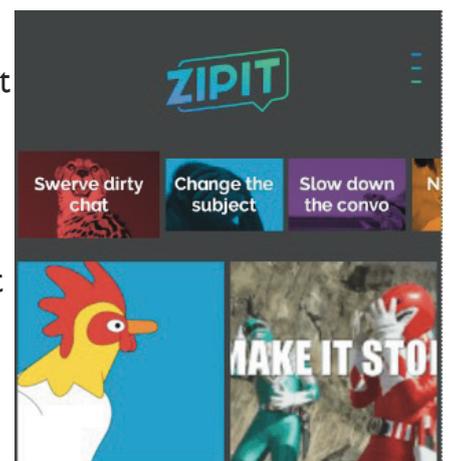
'The multi-agency response to children living with domestic abuse' by Ofsted and other inspection bodies highlights the emotional and mental impact on children and recommends that education for children about healthy relationships, which is already in the curriculum, should be prioritised.

CYSCB is talking to partners and other strategic boards about enhancing existing support. The Ofsted report is available from: www.gov.uk/government/publications/joint-inspections-of-the-response-to-children-living-with-domestic-abuse-september-2016-to-march-2017

New Childline app for young people

Childline has developed a new app and connected website about the dangers of sexting.

'Zipit' offers solutions for young people including how to safely respond to requests for indecent pictures from their peer group, plus advice on handling requests from people who may not be who they say they are.



Supported by North Yorkshire Police and CYSCB, the app complements work by the NSPCC and North Yorkshire Police in schools.

Practitioners, schools and parents are urged to encourage children and young people to use the app at: www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/sexting/zipit-app/

Keep up to date with our work at www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/ and via twitter on @YorkLSCB



New support for children from IDAS

A Children's Services Manager for IDAS has been recruited following Ofsted's report on domestic abuse and CYSCB's own recent report on the impact it has on children in York.

Amanda Flanagan will manage IDAS' children's team to deliver projects including Respect and the Advocacy programme.

Holly graphic For more information please email amanda.flanagan@idas.org.uk



Children's experiences of seeking help after sexual abuse

The perspectives of children and young people affected by child sexual abuse in the family is now online.

'Making Noise' researched for the Children's Commissioner for England, shares views from children and young people from across the country on how they disclosed abuse and the support they received.

Read more at: www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/news-opinion/making-noise-childrens-voices-for-positive-change/

Guidance on recruiting sports coaches

CYSCB, YorWellbeing and North Yorkshire Sport are among the partners to publish guidance for York schools on safer recruitment of, and the use of, sports coaches.



The guidance covers all aspects from job descriptions to reference requests and DBS checks, induction, minimum standards plus ongoing monitoring and vigilance.

The guidance is available from: www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/child-protection-procedures.htm

New practitioners group to support young people at risk of exploitation

An operational group is being set up to discuss how agency partners can best work together to support and keep safe young people who are vulnerable to, or at risk of, exploitation.

Broadly, the group will be a forum for raising emerging themes, discussing practice issues, sharing information about current research and considering preventative and awareness raising strategies.

The group will feed in to the CYSCB CSE&A/Missing from Home sub-group. The first meeting will be held on Monday 29 January 2018 at 11am in West Offices. To get involved or to discuss this further please call Mo Crossley, advanced practitioner CSA&E/Missing, on 01904 551764 or 07983951043.

Safeguarding Week 2017

Safeguarding Week in York and North Yorkshire was supported by both Safeguarding Boards from both councils, the Community Safety Partnerships and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

A safeguarding conference held in Harrogate was attended by more than 300 practitioners, while awareness and learning events in York were held for the public and professionals.

Thank you to all who played a part during the week.



Keep up to date with our work at www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/ and via twitter on @YorkLSCB

Police work in schools

In York's primary and secondary schools, police and PCSOs have been delivering sexting and online safety awareness. With social workers, they've also been talking about Brighter Futures with young people highlighted as having low aspirations and poor perceptions of policing. Further work is planned on raising awareness of drunk- or drugs-driving and the impact of anti-social behaviour, as well as safeguarding and prevention.

Learning and guidance update

Online basic safeguarding awareness

The new CYSCB Online Basic Awareness Course is now live. Please sign up to and take the course from:

www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/learning-and-development.htm



NICE guidance on child abuse and neglect

NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) has issued new guidance for all practitioners working with children and young people. It offers practical advice from how to listen to children to identifying signs of neglect and abuse.

Find out more from:

www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng76#163961_20171017092843

Keep up to date with our work at www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/ and via twitter on  @YorkLSCB

NSPCC updates resources for disabled children

PANTS campaign

The NSPCC 'Pants' campaign now includes a version for children and parents with learning difficulties and for children with autism.

These resources help to teach children that their bodies belong to them and how to keep themselves safe. Please download them from: www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/



Letting the Future In

The NSPCC's local programme for children who have been affected by sexual abuse is now accepting referrals for children with mild to moderate learning difficulties.

'Letting the Future In' delivers play therapy sessions for boys and girls aged 4 to 17 to help them express their feelings. Family members are involved and are offered individual support and some joint sessions with the child. Find out more by calling the NSPCC York on 01904 232800.

If you are concerned about a child:

If you think that a child or young person is being abused or neglected you must inform Children's Social Care or the police.

To report concerns to Children's Social Care you can do so:

- By phone – one phone number for all concerns and enquiries: 01904 551900
- By email – one email address: childrensfrontdoor@york.gov.uk
- Using a referral form available here: www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/concerned-about-a-child-or-young-person.htm
- By letter – Children's Social Care, City of York Council, West Office, York YO1 6GA
- Outside office hours, at weekends and on public holidays contact the Emergency Duty Team telephone: 01609 780780.



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