

Educational Safeguarding DSL newsletter



WORCESTERSHIRE
CHILDREN FIRST 

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Edition: 19

Date: 29 February 2024

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WCF Updates

Newsletter update

From the 06/03/24 the weekly Newsletter will be sent on Wednesday's before 3pm.

March DSL Network Meetings

A reminder that the DSL Network meeting are being held on:

- 19th March from 3pm to 4:30pm, for the Worcester, Wyre Forest, and Malvern areas
- 21st March from 3pm to 4:30pm, for the Bromsgrove, Wychavon, and Redditch areas

(You can attend either if you can't make the local one to your area)

To book your place on a meeting:

- Please book formally book via CPD - <https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/LearnCPD/CoursesSearch.aspx> using your school CPD Leader login details. This will ensure that Denise and the training team can monitor the interest and marketing accordingly.
- Please note this is the same process as you would use to book DSL training as part of the Safeguarding SLA. Any issues with booking please contact the training team by emailing workforcesupport@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Operation Encompass

Following from the Head Teachers meeting, just a reminder to the 100 schools that have not signed up to Operation Encompass. To continue receiving operation encompass reports please make sure your school's DSL's and DDSL's have completed the [Online Key Adult Training : Operation Encompass](#) and that the Head Teacher has completed the WCF Operation Encompass Signed Agreement (below word document).

Please send the copies of the certificates and the signed agreement to Mikey Addis and Gem Rainsford-Grady on MAddis@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk and GGrady@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Private Fostering

Attached is a professional's guide to Private Fostering, I would be grateful if you could bring Private Fostering.

A privately fostered child is a child under 16 (or 18 if disabled) who is being cared for, for 28 days or more, by an adult who is **NOT** their parent, stepparent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister, or brother. It's usually a cousin or great aunt, a friend of the family, or someone who has agreed to take care of the child by private arrangement without involving the council.

The parent is still legally responsible for their child. Children Services have a legal duty to ensure children in this situation are safe and well.

Examples of private foster care arrangements:

- There are a number of cases in Worcestershire where a birth parent has left the household through a relationship breakdown or is in prison and the child is left in the care of the birth

parent's partner. The child will often view this person as a stepparent, however, if the parent and stepparent are not married or in a civil partnership it will fall under Private Fostering Regulations and Children's Services need to be notified.

- Children in this country for education or health care by parents or guardians living overseas. A recent example was a child from Germany whose parents had arranged for a host family to have power of attorney. As the host family is not a close relative this is still private fostering and Children Services needs to be notified.
- Teenagers living with a friend's family as a result of problems at home.
- Children on holiday exchanges that last for more than 28 days.

As a school, you have a legal duty to notify Children's Social Care of Private Fostering arrangements.

If you require any further information, please contact the Kinship Team on 01905 845925

Wyre Forest District Council - Domestic Abuse Housing and Referral Form

Support referral to the Domestic Abuse Housing Team, which can support people who are homeless or worried they might be made homeless.

Cranstoun – Contaminated Vapes

February update - We are aware of vape liquids & pens containing very strong synthetic cannabinoids 'spice' which are likely being sold as THC vapes. These are causing unintended effects in those who use them.

Find more information and advice from Cranstoun, please click on the link [Drug Alert - Contaminated Vapes - Cranstoun](#)

Harmony At Home

Harmony at Home is Worcestershire's approach to the Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC) initiative in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and organisations from our multi-agency Reference group.

Find more information or to make a referral to this service, please click on link [Harmony at Home | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Changes to the early years foundation stage (EYFS) framework: January 2024

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework is mandatory for all Early Years settings. It sets the standards that all Early Years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe.

A [full list of changes to the early years foundation stage framework](#) is available for your setting. The changes are mainly regulatory and offer new flexibilities to settings. These changes do not alter the EYFS education reforms that were introduced in 2021.

Promoting and supporting mental health and wellbeing in schools and colleges

Taking a coordinated and evidence-informed approach to mental health in schools and colleges leads to improved pupil and student wellbeing, which, in turn, can improve learning.

The [guidance outlining a whole school or college approach](#) describes the areas to consider to enable good mental health and wellbeing practice.

Documents for the above can be found in our DSL Newsletter Jan to March 2024 google drive, accessible via the following link <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RRWvyUjwx1IdTrS-N9ZQuOexaKw-g3zO?usp=sharing>

Useful information for schools

Barnardo's Parental Conflict

What is parental conflict?

There are many forms of conflict in relationships and not all are bad. Harmful parental conflict is a pattern of damaging behaviour that can include:

1. Shouting or aggressive arguments.
2. Not speaking to each other regularly or for long periods.
3. Being disrespectful.
4. Letting issues linger rather than sorting things out.

What is most important is how we approach conflict. As adults, we are role models for our children so if we can remain calm and respectful whilst addressing any disagreements, it provides our children with important life skills for future interactions with others.

Find more information or to make a referral to this service, please click on link [Parental conflict | Barnardo's Family Space \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)

National FGM – Breast Flattening

What is Breast Flattening or Breast Ironing?

“The process during which young pubescent girls’ breasts are ironed, massaged, flattened and/or pounded down over a period of time (sometimes years) in order for the breasts to disappear or delay the development of the breasts entirely.”

For more information and resources for your school please click on link [Breast Flattening – National FGM Centre](#)

Documents for the above can be found in our DSL Newsletter Jan to March 2024 google drive, accessible via the following link <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RRWvyUjwx1IdTrS-N9ZQuOexaKw-g3zO?usp=sharing>

Training and Events

Family Support Worker (FSW) Peer Supervisions

The Bewdley School have very kindly offered to host the 16 April Family Support Worker (FSW) Peer Supervisions and delegates have been advised of the venue change. As always we wanted to ensure delegates booked were told in a variety of methods regarding the venue change.

If you still haven't booked onto the Family Support Worker (FSW) Peer Supervisions then this is your opportunity. The two hour session is led by Hayley Doyle with direction from the group on the focus / topic for each meeting with the ultimate aim of forming a self-sufficient FSW networking group.

The Family Support Worker Peer Supervision group are designed to:

- share good practice / ideas.
- provide access to resources.
- meet other family support workers within the county.
- find out about training opportunities.
- hear from internal or external speakers on specific topics pertinent to your role.

Cost: £25 + VAT - this course price is regardless of schools purchasing the Safeguarding SLA

- 16 April 2024, 10.30am to 12pm, Bewdley, course code: 10374 / 83249
- 04 July 2024, 10.30am to 12pm, Worcester, course code: 10374 / 83250

How to book:

- Book via CPD - <https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/LearnCPD/CoursesSearch.aspx> - using your school CPD Leader login details.
- Confirmations will include all joining instructions.

National Centre for Domestic Violence (NCDV).

Sent on behalf of Karen Payne, the Regional Manager for your area for the National Centre for Domestic Violence (NCDV).

FREE NCDV training session for you/your Agency and attached is the 'Training Factsheet' with further details of the training that NCDV offer.

A minimum of ten people is needed to attend the session, there is NO maximum number. The training lasts for one hour, to allow for questions at the end.

Please contact Mikey Addis on MAddis@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk if you would like to book a place on this course and dates can be confirmed.

Documents for National Centre for Domestic Violence (NCDV) can be found in our DSL Newsletter Jan to March 2024 google drive, accessible via the following link

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RRWvyUjwx1dTrS-N9ZQuOexaKw-g3zO?usp=sharing>

Education Safeguarding team Contact's.

Denise Hannibal

- Education and Early Year Safeguarding Lead for Safeguarding Education
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- Telephone: 01905 844436

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- Telephone: 01905 845230

Mikey Addis

- Business Support Officer for Safeguarding Education
- Email: MAddis@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk
- Telephone: 01905 845526

Nicky Truby

- Business Support Officer for Safeguarding Early Years
- Email: NTruby@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Useful Website's

Worcester Children First Education Safeguarding

- [Safeguarding support for teachers and education professionals | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Worcestershire Children First CPD

- [Courses Search \(worcestershire.gov.uk\)](#)

KCSIE

- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64f0a68ea78c5f000dc6f3b2/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2023.pdf

Home Office (Prevent)

- [The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)