



February 2018

Safer Snippets

The latest safeguarding news and updates, circulated to support continued learning and development and to keep safeguarding children high on the agenda in Dudley.

- **Safer Snippets on the Web**

Following requests from practitioners there is now a dedicated page on the DSCB website that hosts Safer Snippet newsletters. This should make it easier for you to link to individual copies and access any back issues that may have been missed. Contents are listed for each edition enabling you to see at a glance what was covered. We hope you find this useful.

See: <http://bit.ly/2qUdnZu>

- **Keeping children safe in education – New consultation**

The Department for Education invites your views on changes to the statutory guidance 'Keeping children safe in education' (KCSIE) and on a new departmental non-statutory advice document which will cover sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges. They have recently made changes to KCSIE to reflect the changes currently being made to Working Together to Safeguard Children.

See: <http://bit.ly/2CSOpei>

- **Multi Agency Case File Audit – Neglect**

Dudley Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) has a duty to evaluate multi-agency working through case file audits, often referred to as MACFAs (multi-agency case file audits). The latest MACFA held in January focused on Neglect. This resulted in a briefing paper which has now been published on the DSCB website to inform how changes can be made to professional practice.

See: <http://bit.ly/2E8Bu8R>

- **Modern slavery: a council guide**

Modern slavery is a term that includes human trafficking, slavery, servitude and forced labour. The Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner notes "There are an estimated 40.3 million people living in slavery today, and the Home Office estimates that up to 13,000 of those are based in the UK." This guide is designed to help councils to increase awareness of modern slavery and to provide further clarity on their role in tackling it.

See: <http://bit.ly/2BH8YqL>

- **General Data Protection Regulation – What you need to know**

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a new European Union directive that is due to come into force in May 2018. Currently, local authorities have to share data with colleagues working in other public services, such as health and the police, if it is needed for

child protection purposes. How that is done and what needs to happen before it takes place is likely to change under the GDPR. This recent article in the Guardian discussed this and other changes likely to affect those working with children and young people.

See: <http://bit.ly/2GRnt11>

- **Children's Commissioner Report - Life in Likes**

This report on the effects of social media on 8-to-12-year-olds examines the way children use social media and its effects on their wellbeing. 'Life in Likes' shows how younger children use platforms which social media companies say are not designed for them. Whilst most social media sites have an official age limit of 13 years, some research has suggested three quarters of 10-to-12 year olds have a social media account.

See: <http://bit.ly/2myliqF>

- **Factsheet - Definitions and signs of child abuse**

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) has published a factsheet providing guidance for professionals who work with children on how to recognise the signs of child abuse. The guidance includes: physical abuse; neglect; sexual abuse; child sexual exploitation; harmful sexual behaviour; emotional abuse; domestic abuse; bullying and cyberbullying; child trafficking; and female genital mutilation.

See: <http://bit.ly/2D5KpgS>

- **Safer Internet Day February 2018**

Safer Internet Day is held this month and this year is focussing on the theme 'Create, connect and share respect: a better internet starts with you'. Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre the day offers the chance to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore ways to create a better and safer online community. Their website has a wealth of free supporting resources and videos made especially for parents and carers to use.

See: <http://bit.ly/2mxDel8>

- **Nationwide Pupil Online Safety Survey**

Tying in with Safer Internet Day, throughout February London Grid for Learning, DigiSafe & NSPCC are running a pupil online safety survey free to all UK schools. Designed for pupils across Key Stages 2-4, this aims to develop a better understanding of young people's online lives: nationally via a report they have commissioned, and locally through the data which will be returned to participating schools.

See: <http://bit.ly/2EoZdVF>

- **International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation**

The International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) takes place on the 6th of this month. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is sometimes referred to as Female Circumcision or cutting. The vision of the National FGM Centre is to end new cases of FGM for women and girls living in England within the next 15 years, in partnership with statutory agencies, government departments and grassroots organisations. See their website for a wealth of information, resources and tools that support their work and the aims of this day.

See: <http://bit.ly/2BH4g2S>

If you have Safeguarding news or updates of your own that you would like to be considered for inclusion in the next Safer Snippets, please email:

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