



January 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.

- **Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Briefings**

Safe and Sound, Dudley's Community Safety Partnership will be holding a number of briefing sessions on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Delivered by Black Country Women's Aid, they will cover a national, regional and local perspective, regional procedures and the National Referral Mechanism. Bookings are to be made through Eventbrite using the password safeandsound3

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

- **Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health Provision**

The government is currently asking people for their views on a green paper setting out measures to improve mental health support for children and young people. This focuses on earlier intervention and prevention, especially in schools and colleges. The proposals include creating a new mental health workforce of community-based support teams, new designated leads for mental health and a new 4-week waiting time.

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

- **Drug and Alcohol Training for supporting young people**

Switch (a Dudley based Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service) has recently been commissioned by Public Health to offer additional free drug and alcohol training for professionals who are working with young people or adults. As well as the existing training they deliver through Dudley Children Safeguarding Board, from January they will be offering a basic Level 1 introduction to drug and alcohol use course, and a Level 2 course which looks at interventions to support people using drugs or alcohol.

See: <http://bit.ly/2BuA4bq>

- **Support for children with special educational needs and disabilities**

At the end of November the Government announced a package of support worth nearly £45 million to provide additional help for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The package of funding includes £29 million to support councils and their partners with implementation of the reforms to the SEND system; £9.7 million to establish local supported internship forums which will create work placements for young people with SEND; and £4.6 million for Parent Carer Forums, which bring parents together with local decision makers and help to provide them with a voice in the process.

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

- **Final version of Dudley's Online Safety Planning Tool**

This online planning tool which is specific to Dudley has now been published as a final version, incorporating feedback from practitioners. It was created in response to the online safety needs assessment that took place last year and addresses key questions over six areas, enabling services to internally assess their safeguarding, leadership, processes, data management, assessment tools and staff training in relation to online safety.

See: <http://bit.ly/2koqy21>

- **Stay safe in winter – the dangers of frozen waters**

After December's freezing weather we are reminded of the dangers of staying safe in winter, particularly around frozen water. Children and pets are at risk when tempted to play on the ice formed on open water, and adults can find themselves at risk in attempting to save them. Drowning Prevention charity, the Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) has put together a number of useful 'Winter Water Safety' tips to help you know what to do in an emergency.

See: <http://bit.ly/2fCYlh6>

- **Raising awareness of dangers of live streaming #WholsSam**

In December, the National Crime Agency (NCA) and National Police Chiefs' Council launched a new campaign encouraging parents to talk to their child about the behaviours that could put them at risk on live streaming platforms. A short animation was released with the hashtag #WholsSam to show how offenders attempt to build relationships online.

See: <http://bit.ly/2zQngr1>

- **Live streaming – what you need to know**

Coinciding with the launch of the campaign above Leah Buck, Education Coordinator for Child Exploitation and Online Protection command (CEOP) explains why these platforms are so popular and tells parents what to be aware of and how to talk to their child about live streaming.

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

- **New BBC website to help children navigate life online**

December saw the launch of a new BBC website for children featuring videos from BBC presenters and vloggers giving tips on how to deal with a number of online issues such as online pressure, cyberbullying and managing life on social media. Its aim is to equip young people with the confidence to navigate the online world safely and become more digitally savvy about the things that they may experience online.

See: <http://bbc.in/2zbKarl>

- **Prevent – Educate against Hate**

The Educate against Hate website gives parents, teachers and governors practical advice on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation. Created by the Department for Education and the Home Office, the site includes information on warning signs of danger, how parents should talk to children about extremism, steps concerned parents can take.

See: <http://bit.ly/2BvHw1m>

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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