

# Bexley Safeguarding Partnership for Children and Young People e-Bulletin

May 2019



## Outcome of the System Learning Event – 30th April

Over 100 practitioners attended the system learning event on 30<sup>th</sup> April which focused on the emerging recommendations from our work to date on Priority 2 – *Responding effectively to the mental ill health of parents so they are supported to give their children the best start* – and launched Priority 3 – *Getting basic child protection right*.

Michael Boyce, Chief Operating Officer - NHS Bexley CCG, shared the recommendations emerging for the partnership from Priority 2 and we heard from a parent about her experience of parenting and mental health services as well as the new [Oxleas Perinatal Mental Health Service](#).

Jacky Tiotto, Director Children's Services - LB Bexley, gave an outline of the scope of Priority 3 and Mark Finnis, Director, L30 Relational Systems, introduced us to restorative practice and helped us think about some of the issues we want to address as part of this partnership priority. His organisation's website, L30 Relational Systems, can be found here: <https://l30relationalsystems.co.uk>.

This was the partnership's second system learning event (effectively 'the next chapter' of the partnership's story). A third system learning event takes place on 9<sup>th</sup> July to feed back on the work of Priority 3.

## Launch of the partnership's third priority on basic child protection

As described above, the partnership's third priority – *Getting basic child protection right* – was launched on 30<sup>th</sup> April. The work will be led by the Local Authority and will focus on 'fixing' a number of practice-related issues identified during Children's Social Care Practice Week in March 2019, as well as from multi-agency audits, complaints, learning reviews, and quality assurance activity within Children's Social Care. Learning Hub members for this priority will lead on the 'fixing' during May and June 2019 and will report back to the Partnership Board via the Learning Hub in July 2019.

## Safeguarding Partnership Briefing Sessions

The partnership will continue to lead monthly 1-hour briefing sessions on key topics and legislation for staff. The schedule and topics for 2019-20, is listed below:

### 2019

29<sup>th</sup> May – Working Together 2018 and Statutory Responsibilities **Places are now filled. If you would like to be added to a waiting list, please email [bscb@bexley.gov.uk](mailto:bscb@bexley.gov.uk)**

26<sup>th</sup> June – Effective Support **To book a place, please click [here](#).**

24<sup>th</sup> July – Core Groups and Conferences **To book a place, please click [here](#).**

25<sup>th</sup> September – Signs of Safety **To book a place, please click [here](#).**

23<sup>rd</sup> October – Partnership Arrangements **To book a place, please click [here](#).**

27<sup>th</sup> November – Working Together 2018 and Statutory Responsibilities **To book a place, please click [here](#).**

### 2020

22<sup>nd</sup> January – Effective Support

26<sup>th</sup> February – Core Groups and Conferences

25<sup>th</sup> March – Signs of Safety

## New Domestic Abuse Service - Solace in Bexley

London Borough of Bexley have commissioned [Solace](#) to be the new provider for domestic abuse services in the borough, to aid sustained recovery for survivors of abuse and their families.

Together they will deliver a specialist domestic abuse service that provides:


- safe and suitable refuge accommodation
- a One Stop Shop in Bexleyheath offering support and advice
- an Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) service for high risk cases
- an outreach service for medium risk cases and resilience building group programmes

It is their aim that all women, men and children affected by abuse are given the specialist support needed to build safer lives and stronger futures.

To find out more about their services in Bexley contact: [bexley.community@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:bexley.community@solacewomensaid.org) or on 0203 1984 659; this is staffed Monday – Friday 9am-5pm (excluding Bank Holidays). Further details are set out below.

### Contact us

#### Borough contacts

 [bexley.refuges@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:bexley.refuges@solacewomensaid.org)  
[bexley.community@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:bexley.community@solacewomensaid.org)

#### Advice line

 0808 802 5565

 [advice@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:advice@solacewomensaid.org)

[solacewomensaid.org](http://solacewomensaid.org)

Solace Women's Aid is a charity registered in England & Wales.  
Charity Number 1062450, Company Number 3326796.



**solace**



## Safer swimming

As we move towards the holiday season, and in particular in hot weather, increasing numbers of children put themselves at risk of drowning. On average 40-50 children drown per year in the UK. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has produced the following guidance [Water Safety for Children and Young People](#) which you may wish to share with children and families.

## World Asthma Day – 7 May 2019

World Asthma Day took place on 7 May. To mark the day in Bexley we are publicising the Healthy London Partnership's [London Asthma Toolkit](#). Endorsed by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and the Royal College of Physicians (RCP), the toolkit has been created to support healthcare professionals, schools, parents and carers, ensure young people and children with asthma have the best care and experiences in London.

## **National reports and guidance**

### **Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education: FAQs, Department for Education (April 2019)**

The Department for Education (DfE) has published answers to [frequently asked questions](#) on the new relationships education and relationships and sex education which will be compulsory in England from 2020. The FAQs, which answer possible questions from parents and carers, clarify the differences between the primary and secondary education programmes and set out regulations surrounding parents' right to withdraw their child from these lessons. The new education programmes include strengthened guidance on content relating to female genital mutilation (FGM) and has developed consent and boundaries content.

### **Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel: practice guidance, Department for Education (April 2019)**

The government has published [practice guidance](#) for working with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel in England. The guidance is aimed at local safeguarding children partnerships (and LSCBs where they still exist) and will be of interest to all senior leaders and frontline practitioners involved in safeguarding children. It explains how the Panel works and gives advice on completing quality rapid reviews under the new arrangements for child safeguarding practice reviews which have replaced Serious Case Reviews.

### **Safer activities and events, NSPCC (April 2019)**

The NSPCC has published new [information on safer activities and events](#). The information is aimed at the voluntary and community sector but the principles of best practice may be helpful to those in other sectors. Best practice includes: follow safer recruitment procedures to make sure everyone who works or volunteers at the event or activity is suitable to do so; draw up a code of conduct for all the adults who are working or volunteering at the event or activity; nominate a key member of staff or volunteer to take overall responsibility for organising the event or activity; and make sure all staff and volunteers understand the safeguarding and child protection plan.

### **Child exploitation disruption toolkit, Home Office (April 2019)**

The Home Office has published a [child exploitation disruption toolkit](#) for professionals working with children in the UK. The toolkit sets out key legislation that can be used to disrupt the criminal and sexual exploitation of children and includes best practice guidance on information sharing and multi-agency working.

## **Link to previous e-bulletins**

Previous e-bulletins are available [here](#).