

Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board



Newsletter

Issue 29: September 2018



Welcome to the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board quarterly newsletter.

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1. Welcome from the OSCB Chair

Dear all

I am very pleased to have the opportunity, afforded by this newsletter coming out fairly early in my tenure, to introduce myself as the new Chair of Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board.

I know that some of you will be aware that I work for Barnardo's and am at present the Assistant Director (Children's Services) for the Cumbrian Locality. I have just secured a new role within Barnardo's as Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Historical Abuse, a post that I feel has an even greater fit with the role I have secured in Oxfordshire than my existing one.

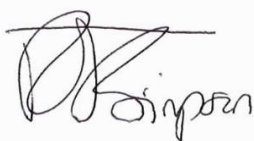


I have worked for Barnardo's for over 23 years, having previously undertaken Child Protection Social Work in Doncaster. I started as a Social Worker in a Family Centre in Barnsley, before becoming a Service Manager and then taking up my current role in February 2008. I have served on Cumbria's Local Safeguarding Children's Board from its inception in 2006 and as the Vice Chair since 2011, with a stint as Interim Chair in 2013-14.

It is my belief that we have no greater responsibility than the protection of our children and young people. Being the father of two children (though I am not sure that as my son is 20 and my daughter 17 they would be too pleased with the title!) it has been my number one priority to ensure they are brought up in a loving, safe, nurturing and resilience-building environment and it is my aim that we strive together to do everything we can for Oxfordshire's children to have the same. We all know that a significant minority do not have such a home and it is incumbent on all of us to work together to improve their circumstances in whatever way we can. Such an ambition inspired me to become a social worker; the same ambition inspired me to want to be your Safeguarding Children Board Chair.

These are interesting times for Safeguarding Boards, with the "new" Working Together guidance offering a chance to reflect and review arrangements and I look forward to working with you all around ensuring the very best arrangements are in place. I look forward to meeting with many of you in the weeks and months to come, in the meantime do contact me via the LSCB office if you have questions, queries, comments or suggestions.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. King', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Chair of Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board

2. Board News

The [OSCB Annual Report](#) has just been published for 2017/18. See page 7 to be clear on local safeguarding concerns. See page 31 to know what the key messages are for the work force from case reviews and hear that OSCB partners recognize that you are doing an excellent job under pressure.

The Board is working on the following safeguarding concerns which have been raised by local partners:

Child exploitation - a new risk assessment will be launched to replace the Child sexual exploitation risk assessment tool. It will help professionals screen for all types of exploitation e.g. drugs, sexual or modern slavery. Work is being done to better co-ordinate support when there is concern that a child is being exploited.

Lack of beds for children with very complex needs – this is being picked up with local MP's and being challenged regionally by LSCB's.

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub – the need for more partnership oversight has been challenged as well as the need for better / more feedback on the outcome of referrals. This is being picked up with the MASH steering group.

Work on Domestic abuse – the development of multi-agency training has been pushed as well as the need to promote the referral route for young people and get more schools signed up to the police's Domestic Abuse notification system (Encompass).

The Voluntary sector – local partners raised a number of concerns regarding lack of resources, managing risk and complexity of cases which have been taken forward to the Children's Trust.

3. Working Together 2018

This new interagency [guidance](#) for interagency work to safeguard and promoted the welfare of children was released at the end of June. It should be read alongside the '[Working Together: transitional guidance](#)' which applies from now until September of next year as well as '[Keeping children safe in education](#)', which is parallel guidance for schools. Additional summaries are attached as links for reference at the end of the paper. The Working Together guidance is for:

- teachers and education staff
- social workers
- health service professionals
- adult services

- police officers
- voluntary and community sector workers in contact with children and families

It applies to local authorities and all schools.

The **core requirements** in Working Together to Safeguard Children in chapter 1 are broadly unchanged. Oxfordshire will still need to publish a 'thresholds of needs'. Local authorities should work with organisations and agencies to develop joined-up early help services based on a clear understanding of local needs. The term professional has been replaced with practitioner throughout so the Lead Professional is now referred to as Lead Practitioner.

Organisational responsibilities including Section 11 requirements for all agencies to have in chapter 2. More information is set out for sports partnerships as well as voluntary and community sector providers.

Working Together requires us to set up new '**Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements**' in chapter 3. The key safeguarding partners will be Oxfordshire County council, Thames Valley Police and the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group. They will work alongside named relevant agencies. The guidance allows for different approaches in different areas. In Oxfordshire the intention is to build on what exists and works well so there are no plans to overhaul the arrangements and there is every intention to maintain the role of an independent chair and other functions that work well. Arrangements must be published no later than June of next year and set up no later than 3 months after publication so a lot of work will happen over the next year to make sure that this transition goes well.

The arrangements for **serious case reviews** will change. Chapter 4 states that there will be both local and national reviews going forward and the 'Safeguarding Child Practice Review Panel' will oversee all this work. They will review the most serious child safeguarding cases to share lessons and improve practice. This [panel](#) is chaired by Edward Timpson and includes up to six other colleagues from health, education and social work backgrounds.

The arrangements for **child death reviews** will change. Chapter 5 states that the key safeguarding partners will be the Local Authority and the Oxford Clinical Commissioning Group. Similarly arrangements must be published no later than June of next year and set up no later than 3 months after publication.

There are some helpful summaries for colleagues who would like to know more;

[tri-x Working Together 18 Guidance](#)

[AILC Working Together-18 Summary](#)

4. Domestic Abuse Pathway for Young People

The Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Pathway for Young People was first rolled out in 2016 in response to the findings of the Child J combined DHR/SCR. Following a multi- agency review, the Pathway has been redeveloped to take account of the findings from the review, changes in local policy and practice and changes to the law in respect of GDPR, the new data protection legislation.

The Pathway document includes an “at a glance” front page informing anyone of what they should do if they know or suspect a young person they are in contact with is in this position. The pathway demonstrates what needs to happen once a referral has been made.

To ensure this Pathway is well understood and is being followed to protect young people and prevent further harm and to help to embed it's use there is free training running in October. The training is intended to raise awareness of the pathway and embed it in multi-agency practice as well as develop the skills necessary to successfully engage and refer young people experiencing domestic abuse within their peer relationships.

There are three training sessions available for professionals across Oxfordshire; one each in Banbury, Oxford City and Didcot.

Further information is available in the attached document and places can be booked via the [OSCB Booking Portal](#)

[Domestic Abuse Pathway for Young People August 2018](#)

[Domestic Abuse Pathway for Young People Training October 2018](#)

5. OSCB Training



New Course launch updates

We are delighted to launch some new courses this autumn; some will be delivered by OSCB Trainers but we are also hosting some additional topics on our training portal for other organisations to allow the courses to be available to a multi-agency audience.

Working with LGBT young people – developed in partnership with Stonewall, this ½ day course is designed to raise awareness about the need for those working with children and families to be aware of the specific needs and associated safeguarding risks that may be experienced by children and young people who are LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) and/or questioning their sexuality or gender

Working with young fathers and male care givers – this course explores the historical context of fatherhood and considers learning from Serious Case Reviews, research and evidence based practice when working with young men, the blocks to engaging with and working with young men and the risks of ‘hidden’ young men and male carers

Domestic Abuse Pathway for young people (as above) – the aim of this course is to raise awareness of domestic abuse in young people’s relationships and the professional responsibility to follow the Domestic Abuse Pathway for Young People

Asylum Seeking young people (Complex Trauma and Lost Identities, Foundations of attachment, Identity and Life Story)

This training programme will offer Oxfordshire’s workforce an opportunity to increase their understanding and awareness of a range of issues which affect Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children, as well as other children in the resident community

- **Complex Trauma and Lost Identities – Finding Our Way Together** – The aim of this workshop is to raise awareness of how to work with highly traumatised refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants, including children and young people with and without families
- **ATTACH training** – a training which explores similarities and differences when thinking about attachment relationships for looked after children and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children
- **Identity and life story: What they are and what they mean for your work with children and young people, including those who are in local authority care (LAC)** – this course is designed to provide workers across different sectors with an understanding of identity development and life story and develop skills in meeting the needs of children and young people in relation to this
- **Increasing awareness and understanding of trauma: Why trauma overwhelms the brain and how to respond – Through attending this training delegates will:**
 - Develop a clear understanding of the nature of Childhood & Adult traumatic presentations.
 - Understand an accessible psychological-physical theory of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
 - Identify the common strategies used to cope with the physiological and psychological effects of trauma
 - Be able to identify potential symptoms associated with Acute Stress Disorder, PTSD & Complex PTSD & other trauma associated problems.
 - Develop an accessible understanding of happens in the brain following psychological trauma (an introduction).
 - Gain Tools to Normalise post-trauma responses: Reducing stigma; reducing secondary stresses.

- Develop basic skills in creating "safe space" to help clients move forward.

Train the Trainer course

We currently have around 80 trainers on the training pool, recently reduced from over 100. Of course, we are always on the look-out for new recruits (especially from the voluntary sector). If you are aware of any one that **may** (or you think, **should!**) be interested in becoming a trainer for the OSCB, please ask them to contact the training co-ordinator for further details – gay.suggitt@oxfordshire.gov.uk

The next date for this course is November 16th 2018 at County Hall in Oxford and we currently still have a couple of spaces available.

Designated Safeguarding Lead training

Please be aware that the OSCB will be handing out a copy of the 'Self Harm Guidelines' which was developed by the Adolescent Self Harm Forum (Oxfordshire) to all delegates who attend the Designated Safeguarding Lead training as a way of highlighting the issue of self-harm.



Have you looked at the training page on the OSCB website recently? **DO check it out** and see the variety of courses on offer FREE OF CHARGE.

Hope to see everyone soon.

6. Safer Together Protective Behaviours Conference


The conference was held on the 14th September at The Unipart Centre in Oxford. 80+ delegates attended from health, social care, police and education. The conference informed delegates of the principles of protective behaviours and introduced them to the Safer Together project which was piloted in Banbury schools last term (May – July 2018). Delegates were informed of the positive outcomes from the pilot project and those partners from education registered a positive interest in having this program facilitated in their school free of charge in the current academic year.

Whole school approach- "Great thought and ideas for going back to school I plan to feedback and cascade information as part of CPD"

"Great range of talks under the protective behaviours umbrella"

The conference was opened by Alison Ritchie Kingfisher Manager who explained the process regarding the identification of the model for the Safer Together project. This

was followed by Sharon Groom, protective behaviour consultant, who explained the principles of protective behaviour and shared the outcomes from the pilot project. Stacey Jade Mason then gave a very powerful key note address regarding her experience of surviving sexual exploitation and her journey to becoming a protective behaviour practitioner and developing her own program to work with young people and adults being exploited. All agreed that this presentation was very powerful and reminded us not to rely on indicators as a sole gauge of risk for young people as Stacey herself identified she did not trigger indicators being an excellent school attendee.




"Stacey told her story and enabled us to see that abuse can happen to anyone- no matter the background engaging and insightful"

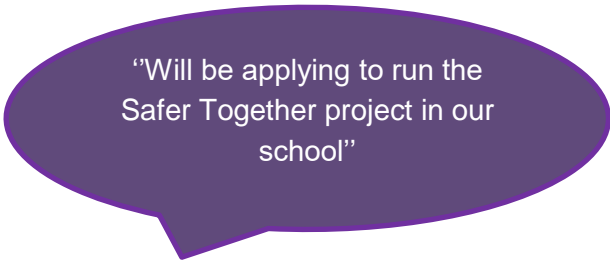


"All 3 workshops were excellent, well presented and useful information and resources for us to use in our practitioner roles. It would be great for Ambassadors program to be offered across Oxfordshire"

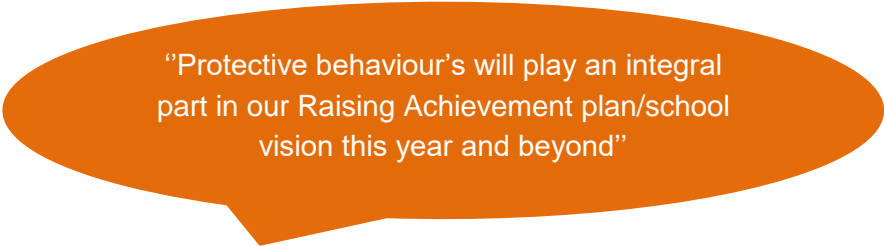
Our 5 workshops; the Youth Ambassador program, Cyber Abuse, Protective Behaviour – a whole school approach, Stacey's 'Knowing Me, Knowing You' protective behaviour program and working with parents around sexual harm were well received. In all the feedback identified the conference to be excellent and workshops were also graded excellent.



Youth Ambassador workshop: "Very inspirational, hope that youth mentoring continues"



"Will be applying to run the Safer Together project in our school"



"Protective behaviour's will play an integral part in our Raising Achievement plan/school vision this year and beyond"

7. Schools Safeguarding Team

Team update;

Sandra Pasquet was married over the Summer holidays and is now Sandra Barratt, email - Sandra.barratt@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Keeping Children Safe in Education - September 2018 version:

[Keeping children safe in education](#)

Statutory guidance for schools and colleges on safeguarding children and safer recruitment, was updated 19 September 2018. Please see below for a summary of key amendments:

Updated document 'Keeping children safe in education: for schools and colleges'. Paragraph 132 – new link to The Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018.

Paragraphs 158 and 159 updated to clarify the point at which a school must make a referral to DBS.

Updated document 'Keeping children safe in education: for school and college staff (part 1)'. Flowchart titled 'Actions where there is a concern about a child' updated to make it more accessible.

Disqualification Under the Childcare act updated 2018

[Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 - Statutory guidance for local authorities and schools updated 31st August 2018](#)

Schools and child care providers need to be aware that the association now only refers to childcare on domestic premises e.g. childminders. However, there is still a responsibility to ensure suitability of the employee directly.

School safeguarding page is currently under review and being updated

Child Protection policy:

The child protection/safeguarding policy has been updated in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018 and is available on the school safeguarding page:

<http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/safeguarding>

Annual Safeguarding Report to Governors

Updated annual report on the school safeguarding page,

<http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/safeguarding> **THIS NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO lado.safeguardingchildren@oxfordshire.gov.uk by CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 2018**

Updated whistleblowing policy

Can be found via the below link

[Whistleblowing Policy for Schools](#)

Designated lead forums;

City date has been arranged for 17th October 10.30am until 12pm. Please email the LADO inbox to confirm attendance, lado.safeguardingchildren@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Details for North and South dates will be sent out asap.

Safer recruitment and lead trainer training:

Safer Recruitment training: Wednesday 31st October pm 1pm-4pm. Kassam stadium

Lead trainer: Wednesday 31st October am 10am-11.30am Kassam Stadium

Safer Recruitment training: Tuesday 4th December 9.30am-12.30pm Kassam Stadium

Safer Recruitment training: Tuesday 4th December 1.30pm-4.30pm Kassam Stadium

Places are £50 per person

If you would like to book a space please email

lado.safeguardingchildren@oxfordshire.gov.uk

8. Anti-bullying

Keeping Children Safe in Education (2018)

The DfE statutory guidance [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) (Sep 2016) emphasised the importance of tackling bullying (including cyberbullying) and also highlighted that children with SEND can be disproportionately impacted by bullying. It also states the importance of teaching children to stay safe online and ensuring they don't access inappropriate material.

Key highlights in the new 2018 guidance, in relation to bullying and online safety.

- Peer on peer abuse is a safeguarding issue and includes bullying and harassment
- Emotional bullying is mentioned and seen as part of emotional abuse that needs to be addressed to safeguard children

- The guidance states that it's important not to pass off any sexual violence or sexual harassment as 'banter', 'part of growing up' or 'having a laugh'. This must be taken seriously and the guidance links to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-violence-and-sexual-harassment-between-children-in-schools-and-colleges>
- There is Increased emphasis on online safety and cyberbullying including sexting. The guidance states that schools should cover in their policies children accessing internet on phones in school
- Children with SEND more likely to be bullied and may not show this in their behaviour

Anti-Bullying Week 2018 – 12th – 16th November 2018

The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week is to choose respect over bullying. Following a consultation with over 800 children, teachers and members of the Anti-Bullying Alliance, it emerged that a top priority was showing that bullying is a behaviour choice, and that children and young people can set a positive example by opting to respect each other at school, in their homes and communities, and online. The aims of this year's Anti-Bullying week are to support schools and other settings to help children and young people, school staff, parents and other professionals who work with children to understand:

- The definition of respect
- That bullying is a behaviour choice
- That we can respectfully disagree with each other i.e. We don't have to be best friends or always agree with each other but we do have to respect each other
- That we need to choose to respect each other both face to face and online

This year's campaign includes:

- Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week again on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week (12th November)
- 'Stop Speak Support' cyberbullying day on the Thursday of Anti-Bullying Week (15th November) supported by the Royal Foundation
- A set of free teaching resources, including lesson and assembly plans and films on bullying, ideas for Odd Socks Day and Stop Speak Support resources about cyberbullying will be available in the run-up to Anti-Bullying Week

You can find out more about the campaign and activities run by the Anti-Bullying Alliance by following the link: <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2018-choose-respect>

The teaching resources are already available to download and include a teaching pack for primary and secondary schools and a guide on using restorative approaches to address bullying. You can download the packs by following the link <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/school-tools>

Preventing and responding to LGBT Bullying: Oxfordshire resources

As well as the [Homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying toolkit \(pdf format, 295KB\)](#) ; [Trans Inclusion Toolkit for Schools \(pdf format, 1.3Mb\)](#) and additional

resources and links on our Homophobic, Biphobic and Transphobic web pages we also have some hard copies of resources available on request as follows: [Getting Started: Celebrating Difference and Challenging Gender Stereotypes in the Early Years Foundation Stage](#).

While significant progress has been made in recent years, LGBT bullying remains widespread in Britain's primary and secondary schools. To truly address this problem, we need to tackle it at its root and support young people to develop inclusive attitudes from an early age.

A vital way to do this is to celebrate difference, including LGBT people, and proactively challenge gender stereotypes in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Not only is this the right thing to do, but it is a legal requirement and something that Ofsted assesses in its inspections.

Getting Started provides a clear roadmap for Early Years providers to create an inclusive environment where every child can thrive. It outlines how providers can meet and exceed their Ofsted and legal requirements in this area, and features ideas, tips and case studies for inspiration.

This guide can be used by all private, voluntary, independent, maintained or academy childcare providers between birth and five years, including childminders, preschools, nurseries, school nursery classes and reception classes.

Oxfordshire has **more than 100 copies** of the guide. If you would like a copy sent to you, please e-mail anti-bullying@oxfordshire.gov.uk. The guide is also [freely available for providers online](#). Please disseminate to any Early Years providers

Local LGBT+ Groups

My Normal – Oxford City



The next session date is this
Saturday 22nd September 11am-
2pm at the Ark-T Centre

It's for 13-19 year olds - but if
anyone over 19 but under 25 and
would like to get involved get
them in contact, as it is likely
they'll still be able to get
involved.

Here is the shareable Facebook
event with a hidden guest
list: [https://www.facebook.com/
events/268346420670658/](https://www.facebook.com/events/268346420670658/)

Pegasus | True Colours | Promoting Creativity & Wellbeing for Young LGBTQ+ People in Oxford

True colours is a weekly creative arts project for young people who identify or are allies of the LGBTQ+ community.

We'd like to hear from anyone who might want to be involved in this exciting opportunity.

When? Saturday afternoons 2-4pm from September 18

Where? Pegasus Theatre, Magdalen Road, Oxford, OX4 1RE

Who? Any young people aged 13+

What? A visual and performance arts project with guest artists and exciting workshop opportunities

How? to get involved in this **FREE** group and to register interest in attending in September, please email Kat, the Participation Coordinator. Alternatively please do share with whomever you may feel would wish to join.

participation@pegasustheatre.org.uk

DL: 01865 812 177

Topaz

An informal group for LGBT+ young people aged 13-18, with Saturday meetings in Cowley and Oxford city centre.

Cowley

(2pm – 5):

23rd June
28th July
25th August
22nd Sept
27th Oct
24th Nov



City Centre

(12.30 – 3.30):

9th June
14th July
4th August
8th Sept
13th Oct
10th Nov
8th Dec

TOPAZ Parents:

For parents and family of LGBT+ young people, we have a separate peer support group running at the same time and location as the Cowley sessions

For information and locations for all groups, email: topaz@ark-t.org or contact [Facebook.com/TopazOxfordshire](https://www.facebook.com/TopazOxfordshire) or <http://tas91731.wix.com/topaz>

LGBT+ Support groups will shortly be running elsewhere across Oxfordshire – more details to follow!

Research on Bullying

The article below, published earlier in the year, reports on research about what works to tackle bullying by Elizabeth Naseem at Birmingham University. The article highlights the importance on involving children as the best way to address bullying. It also mentions the need to build empathy and to meet the needs of both the target and the child doing the bullying (through ongoing mentoring and support). Restorative approaches and the need for staff to model respect are also mentioned. Please read the article to find out more.

<https://www.theguardian.com/teacher-network/2018/jan/17/bullying-is-still-rife-in-schools-heres-how-teachers-can-tackle-it>

9. Voluntary and Community Sector

SAFE! is running a Protective Behaviours Foundation Course at the Courtyard in Bicester on the 1st and 2nd of November.

Protective Behaviours is an internationally recognised approach to building emotional literacy and resilience in children, young people and adults. It is a pragmatic approach to personal safety awareness encouraging empowerment and teaching strategies to counter abusive behaviour. The training will develop helpful exercises and approaches to be used widely in work with all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

This is an accredited course giving participants a foundation level certificate from the Protective Behaviours Consortium. The cost for this 2 day course is £250 per participant.

Please see [here](#) for some information about this and other training opportunities from SAFE! To book your place, or to find out more, please email us on safe@safeproject.org.uk

10. Useful Information

Missing Appointments Matter

NHS Nottingham City CCG have commissioned a video animation called Missing Appointments Matter which is aimed at raising awareness about the consequences of missing appointments and ensuring that children and adults get the medical care that they need.

Please [click here](#) to watch the animation. A subtitled version of the video is also available [here](#).

The animation is a follow-on from the [Rethinking 'Did Not Attend'](#) video which acted as a powerful reminder that children do not take themselves to appointments, and for practitioners to reflect on the impact of missed appointments on a child's wellbeing.

Suicide Safe Universities

Universities UK and Papyrus have together authored new guidance on suicide safe universities.

Aimed at university leaders, the guide includes advice on developing a strategy focused specifically on suicide prevention, covering the following areas:

- Steps to prevent student suicide
- Intervening when students get into difficulties
- Best practice for responding to student suicides
- Case studies on approaches to suicide prevention through partnership working
- Checklist highlighting steps university leaders can take to make their communities safer

The guidance is available [here](#)

Safe Haven Project

The Oxford Safe Haven (OSH) provides an additional resource to out of hours and an alternative to the hospital emergency department for people experiencing a crisis with their mental health.

OSH will be open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday 6pm till 12.30am. Last entry at 11.30pm.

Please see below for further information;

[Oxford Safe Haven INFORMATION](#)

[Oxford Safe Haven Poster](#)

[Oxford Safe Haven Referral Form](#)

Victims First: The Willow Project

Victims' First Willow Project is the Thames Valley Wide Exploitation & Complex Needs Service working across Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, seeking to identify and support those individuals who are assessed as having been victims of exploitation or who are deemed to be at risk of exploitation through:

- Sexual Exploitation – those involved in prostitution or working in the commercial sex industry; those manipulated or coerced into sexual activities of any kind for another person's gain; human trafficking for purpose of sexual exploitation; grooming;
- Modern Slavery – forced labour; domestic servitude; organ harvesting; child trafficking for benefit fraud;
- Financial Exploitation – debt bondage; finances controlled by others; financial scams
- Criminal Exploitation – those manipulated or coerced or trafficked for the purpose of any illegal activity i.e., County Lines/drug trafficking, forced shoplifting, forced begging.
- Other Exploitation – the taking over a person's address for the purpose of any criminal activity i.e., for drug dealing/using (known as "cuckooing"), prostitution or storing stolen goods

As well as supporting victims of Modern Slavery, trafficking and exploitation the service will provide much-needed specialist support for victims of other forms of serious crime (excluding sexual and domestic abuse for whom specialist services already exist).

Victims First, Willow Project will work directly with victims and their families to provide:

- Crisis intervention
- Advocacy

- Longer term practical and emotional support

If you wish to make a referral or just seek advice please contact us at enquiries@vfwillowproject.org.uk or 0753 824 1045.

Anti-Slavery Day Event



Thursday 18 October 2018

Oxford Brookes Business School in conjunction with **Oxford Brookes Students' Union** is delighted to invite you to a special open event on International Anti-Slavery Day. This multi-sector and multi-stakeholder event will address current challenges faced and initiatives undertaken by public, private and third-sector organisations.

Modern Slavery is a growing, criminal phenomenon. The International Labour Organization estimates that globally over 40 million people were held in some form in 2017, predominantly forced labour and sexual exploitation. In the UK alone, 5000 people were referred to the authorities as potential slavery victims that year. Research undertaken by the Oxford School of Hospitality Management identifies that modern slavery poses significant risks for businesses within their operations and within their global supply and value chains. The research also demonstrates the value of the working collaboratively to combat this human rights crime.

Programme

2pm to 5pm: Multi-sector Stall Exhibition, Union Square, John Henry Brookes Building

No registration required, come along at any time

5.30pm to 5.50pm: Live Performance of **BOUND** by Justice in Motion, Union Hall, John Henry Brookes Building. This extract from the full play is based on true accounts of modern slavery in different sectors and tells the story of strength, friendship and defiance in the face of adversity

6.00pm to 7.30pm: Panel Discussion including representatives of Thames Valley Police, Oxfordshire City Council, GLAA, Shiva Foundation, Staffonline, Oxfordshire Anti-Slavery Network and others, Union Hall, John Henry Brookes Building

7.30pm to 8.30pm: Reception, Union Gallery, John Henry Brookes Building



Places for the live performance, panel discussion and reception are limited. If you are interested in attending these specific events, [please register here.](#)

11. National Updates

Healthy and unhealthy relationships

14th Sept 18

Childline has launched a campaign to help young people understand the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships, and help them identify signs that their relationship might not be quite right. 'Looking out for Lottie', an eight-part series, follows a fictional character Lottie who gets into an unhealthy relationship, showing how grooming can happen without realising it.

Source: [Childline: healthy and unhealthy relationships](#)

Child migrants

13th Sept 18

The Home Office has announced a new form of leave for children who were brought to the UK to reunite with their families during the Calais camp clearance in 2016. Calais leave will grant children and young people who: were brought to the UK as part of the Calais clearance exercise between October 2016 and July 2017; were under the age of 18 at this time and had recognised family ties in the UK the right to: study; work; access public funds and healthcare; and apply for settlement after 10 years.

Source: [Home Office](#)

Cross-border child protection

13th Sept 18

Children and Families Across Borders (CFAB) have published a report looking at cross-border child protection. Findings from a case audit of 200 cases referred to CFAB in 2015 and 2016 involving 333 children include: 1 in 4 children in need of protection in the UK who travelled abroad continued to be at risk of abuse and/or neglect; and differences were identified in local authority approaches to assessing international placements, the legal orders used and the post-placement support provided. Recommendations include: practical guidance is needed for local authority safeguarding teams on actions required when a child in need of protection travels abroad, and further research is needed into long-term outcomes for children placed with family internationally.

Source: [CFAB](#)

Further information: [Cross-border child safeguarding: challenges, effective social work practice and outcomes for children \(PDF\)](#)

Child abuse image offences**13th Sept 18**

The NSPCC has released figures from a freedom of information request sent to 43 police forces across England and Wales, and a formal request for information from police forces in Northern Ireland and Scotland, asking them for the number of recorded offences for indecent images (still or moving) of children. Figures show that 22,724 offences were recorded in 2017/18, an increase of 23% on the previous year. The NSPCC Wild West Web campaign is calling on the government to adopt new laws to protect children online.

Source: [NSPCC: Child abuse image offence recorded](#)

Further information: [NSPCC Wild West Web campaign Guardian](#)

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils' experiences at school**12th Sept 18**

The BBC reports that the House of Commons Women and Equalities Committee has heard evidence from experts pointing out that bullying, racism and feeling left out of the curriculum are major factors in low school attendance rates among children and young people from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) community. The Women and Equalities Committee is holding an inquiry to look at inequalities faced by the GRT community.

Source: [BBC](#)

Further information: [Tackling inequalities faced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities](#)

Children and young people's mental health**11th Sept 18**

Researchers from University College London, Imperial College London, University of Exeter and the Nuffield Trust have published findings from research looking at trends in mental health problems in children and young people. Analysis of data from 140,830 participants aged 4–24 years from 36 national surveys in England, Scotland and Wales found that: in 2008, 3% of 4-24 year olds in England and 3.7% in Scotland said they had a long-standing mental health condition, with 2.9% of 4-24 year olds in Wales saying they had received treatment; by 2014 these figures had grown to 4.8% in England, 6.5% in Scotland and 4.1% in Wales; boys aged 4-12 were consistently more likely to report a long-standing mental health condition than young girls.

Source: [Nuffield Trust](#)

Further information: [Mental health and well-being trends among children and young people in the UK, 1995 – 2014; analysis of repeated cross-sectional national health surveys](#)

6th Sept 18

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) has announced the creation of eight mental health networks to bring researchers, charities and other organisations together to address mental health research questions including: health inequalities for people with severe mental ill health; social isolation; youth and student mental health; and domestic and sexual violence. The NSPCC are partners in two networks: the nurture network looking at ways to promote young people's mental health in a digital world;

and the emerging minds network which aims to establish the best ways of helping children, young people and families benefit from mental health research.

Source: [UKRI](#)

Substances taken by young people

11th Sept 18

The Guardian reports that research carried out by the University of Nottingham medical school looking at patterns and trends among 10–24-year-olds across England who overdose on painkillers and antidepressants. Findings from a study of 1,736,527 young peoples' GP and hospital records from 1998 to 2014 include: 40,333 poisoning episodes were identified, of which 66.5% were recorded as intentional; and there were increases in poisoning incidence rates of between three- and fivefold for opioids, antidepressants, aspirin and paracetamol over the study period.

Source: [Guardian](#)

Further information: [Poisoning substances taken by young people: a population-based cohort study](#)

Child arrests in England and Wales

10th Sept 18

The Howard League for Penal Reform has published a research briefing on child arrests in England and Wales. Analysis of freedom of information data from 43 police service areas in England and Wales and the British Transport Police shows that: there were 79,012 child arrests in 2017, a 68% reduction from 2010 when there were 245,763 child arrests; there were 616 arrests of primary school-aged children in 2017.

Source: [Howard League for Penal Reform](#)

Further information: [Child arrests in England and Wales 2017: research briefing \(PDF\)](#)

Victims strategy

10th Sept 18

The Ministry of Justice has published the Victims strategy setting out a criminal justice system wide response to improving the support offered to victims of crime, including those who have suffered child sexual abuse in England and Wales. The strategy sets out plans to abolish the rule which denied compensation for some victims who lived with their attacker prior to 1979; consult on further changes to the criminal injuries compensation scheme which will include considering how the scheme can serve victims of child sexual abuse; and pilot a 'child house' model to support child victims of sexual abuse.

Source: [Ministry of Justice](#)

Further information: [Victims strategy \(PDF\)](#)

Standards for safeguarding and protecting children in sport

7th Sept 18

The Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) has published updated standards for safeguarding and protecting children in sport. The standards provide a framework for those involved in sport to help them create a safe sporting environment for children

and young people and protect them from harm. The update includes changes in legislation, government guidance and safeguarding practice.

Source: [NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit](#)

Further information: [Child Protection in Sport Unit standards for safeguarding and protecting children in sport in England \(PDF\)](#)

Schools and colleges: survey of pupils

7th Sept 18

The Department for Education (DfE) has published a report on findings from wave 4 of the omnibus survey of school pupils aged 11-17; college students aged 16-17, and their parents/ carers in England. Findings from more than 3,000 survey responses include: 20% of school pupils and 12% of college students reported being a victim of bullying at school or college at least once a month in the last year; and 79% of school pupils and 78% of college students said that their school/college has a specific member of staff that they can talk to if they have a problem or worry.

Source: [DfE](#)

Further information: [Omnibus survey of pupils and their parents/carers: research report wave 4 \(PDF\)](#)

Children's social care services: raising concerns with Ofsted

7th Sept 18

Ofsted has published revised guidance on how to share concerns about children's social care services in England with Ofsted and what they will do with the information. The guidance has been revised to include all concerns, rather than just whistleblowing.

Source: [Ofsted](#) **Further information:** [Sharing concerns and information with Ofsted about children's social care services: guidance](#)

Ofsted's inspection of schools: Commons Select Committee

7th Sept 18

The Committee sets out shortcomings in Ofsted's performance stating that Ofsted has not provided the level of independent assurance about the quality of education. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/public-accounts-committee/news-parliament-2017/ofsted-inspector-report-published-17-19/>

Sentencing guidelines: child cruelty and FGM

6th Sept 18

The Sentencing Council has published guidelines for England and Wales on how those guilty of child cruelty offences should be sentenced. The guidelines cover three offences: cruelty to a child; causing or allowing a child to die or suffer serious physical harm; and failing to protect a girl from the risk of female genital mutilation (FGM).

Source: [Sentencing Council](#)

Further information: [Child cruelty: definitive guideline](#)

NSPCC Learning launched

4th Sept 18

The NSPCC has launched NSPCC Learning, a new website with the latest child protection and safeguarding news, information and training. The new website brings

together information and resources for professionals working in safeguarding and child protection in one central point including: the latest research, child protection statistics, leaflets, practical guidance, briefings and evaluations; and information on key topics including resources to keep children safe in schools and colleges.

Source: [Introducing NSPCC Learning](#)

Mental health policy in England

4th Sept 18

The House of Commons Library has published a briefing on mental health policy in England. The briefing includes reference to services for children and young people.

Source: [UK Parliament](#)

Young carers

4th Sept 18

Coram has published an evaluation of the Young carers in schools Programme, a free England-wide initiative delivered by Carers Trust and The Children's Society aimed at improving the identification and support of young carers in schools. The research involved an online survey of 103 schools involved in the programme, 14 interviews with schools and other stakeholders, and two focus groups with young carers. Findings include: the introduction of the programme resulted in the identification of an increased number of young carers; 85% of schools reported that young carers were demonstrating increased wellbeing; 83% reported increased happiness and 83% reported increased confidence.

Source: [Coram](#)

Further information: [A better relationship with learning: an evaluation of the young carers in schools programme \(PDF\)](#)

Child sexual exploitation online

3rd Sept 18

Home Secretary Sajid Javid has outlined the government's commitment to lead the response to online child sexual exploitation, including funding for law enforcement, intelligence agencies and a new prevention drive. The Home Secretary called on the technology industry to work in partnership with each other and with government to: block child sexual abuse material as soon as technology companies detect it being uploaded; stop child grooming taking place on their platforms; work with government and law enforcement to shut down live-streamed child abuse; and help law enforcement agencies to deal with these types of crimes.

Source: [Home Office](#)

Further information: [Keeping our children safe: speech](#)

[NSPCC: Wild West Web campaign](#)

Read more on NSPCC Learning: [How you can help keep children safe online](#)

Parental responsibility: guidance

3rd Sept 18

The Department for Education has published guidance to help schools and local authorities in England understand and deal with issues relating to parental responsibility as recognised by education law, in particular in situations where parental responsibility can be confusing or unclear.

Source: [DfE](#)

Independent Inquiry into CSA Inquiry opens core participant applications for next phase of internet investigation

3rd Sept 18

The next phase will investigate adequacy of:

- (i) government policy relevant to the protection of children from sexual abuse facilitated by the internet;
- (ii) the relevant statutory and regulatory framework applicable to internet service providers, providers of online platforms, and other relevant software companies; and,
- (iii) the response of internet service providers, providers of online platforms, and other relevant software companies to CSA facilitated by the internet.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiryopens-core-participant-applicationsinternet-investigation>

Report by The Children's Society: Just over 20% of 14-year-old girls self-harm

29th Aug 18

22% of girls aged 14 said they had self-harmed in just a year according to a report by The Children's Society. 16% of more than 11,000 children surveyed reported self-harming at this age, including 9% of boys. The statistics follow new analysis included in the charity's annual Good Childhood Report, which examines the state of children's well-being in the UK. The report looks at the reasons behind the unhappiness which increases the risk of children self-harming. Based on these figures, The Children's Society estimates that nearly 110,000 children aged 14 may have self-harmed across the UK during the same 12-month period, including 76,000 girls and 33,000 boys.

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/news-and-blogs/press-releases/one-in-four-14-year-old-girls-self-harm>

IICSA updates timetable for public hearings

23rd Aug 18

The Inquiry has today announced that it expects public hearings to conclude in 2020. More investigations may be considered, but the Inquiry currently believes we will have gathered sufficient evidence to conclude open hearings by the end of 2020. The Inquiry has a busy programme of work, with six public hearings scheduled to take place before April 2019, and further hearings planned in 2019 and 2020.

The other work of the Inquiry will continue, to enable the full scope of its terms of reference to be delivered. The Inquiry has already said that it will issue reports into each of its investigations; these reports and the Inquiry's final report will continue to be published well after the end of public hearings. The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse was set up in 2015 to examine the extent to which institutions have failed to protect children from sexual abuse, the extent to which those failings have been addressed and to make recommendations to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation in the future.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiryupdates-timetable->

'Are they shouting because of me?'

14th Aug 18

In July it was reported that over 2m children in England are living in families with complex needs - based on aggregate levels of need for 70 vulnerable groups.

The children's commissioner spoke to children being supported by three projects all set up to support children and families living in households with mental health, parental substance misuse and domestic abuse. Their views are presented in our report

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/2018/08/14/voices-of-children-living-in-households-with-domestic-abuse-parental-substance-misuse-and-mental-health-issues/>

12. Glossary

Glossary	
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CDOP	Child Death Overview Panel
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CYP	Children and Young People Forum
DA	Domestic Abuse
DCS	Department of Children Services
DfE	Department for Education
DHR	Domestic Homicide Review
EGA	Local Government Association
EIF	Early Intervention Foundation
EPI	Education Policy Institute
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation 2016
HBSC	Health Behaviour School-age Children
HMIP	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons
LADO	Local Area Designated Officer
LGBTQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and others
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children Board
MP	Member of Parliament
NCB	National Children's Board
NHS FT	National Health Service Foundation Trust
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

OCVA	Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Association
OSAB	Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board
OSCB	Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board
SCR	Serious Case Review
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disability