



Key learning points from the OSCB's most recent Serious Case Reviews (SCR's) undertaken are:

1. **Curiosity:** being curious about the family's past history, relationships and current circumstances in a way that moves beyond reliance on self-reported information
2. **Responding to physical abuse:** professionals identifying it, listening to children and following procedures to properly investigate
3. **The role of schools in keeping children safe:** understanding that school attendance is a critical factor to support opportunity, well-being and safety
4. **Professional understanding of the implications of elective home education:** actively knowing which agencies are in touch with the family and to what effect
5. **Taking a cumulative view when working with children:** not seeing events in a linear way but weighing up risks over time and keeping previous events in mind (using chronologies)
6. **Parental wellbeing:** mental health, substance misuse and domestic abuse are recurring themes
7. **Fragmented management of health needs:** ensuring effective communication across services for co-ordinated and consistent management of care
8. **Children's emotional wellbeing:** increasing evidence of self-harm by children aged 10 years & above
9. **Children's limited capacity to protect themselves** as they move into adolescence after experiencing a lack of consistent, supportive parenting in their early years (long lasting impact of neglect)
10. **Rethinking 'did not attend' to 'was not brought'**