

Safeguarding in Education Audit 2020

The audit said...

We did...



There was an increase in children requiring SEN support and wider understanding of SEN needs

'We want inspection to contribute to an inclusive education system that can accommodate, and cater for, the needs of all learners of all ages.' Ofsted 2019

- Slough SEND Strategy refresh including an audit of current practice which will inform strategic action planning
- Through the SBC restructure; Education and Inclusion Division has reconfigured SEN team, developing robust commissioning and governance frameworks for SEN
- Whole School SEND (WSS)/DFE Project with Slough school leaders delivered training to Heads, Senior Leadership, Governors and SENDCos in Jan-March 2021
- Whole School SEND (WSS) seminar with school leaders to explore a shared understanding of inclusion and plan whole school CPD for 2021-2022 focusing on practice review and the development of school to school support coming in 2021



Reports of high levels of neglect referrals

- New refreshed CPD seminars available to enable staff to have 'difficult conversations regarding neglect, non-compliance and consent issues' and update on the new toolkit
- Refreshed local thresholds to capture educational neglect
- Wellbeing Tool developed to aid discussions with families and young people based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- Making quality referrals CPD Seminars delivered to support DSL's develop and submit robust referrals



Reports of high levels of domestic abuse concerns

- 'Coercive Control Awareness' CPD seminars to help professionals identify signs and assess risk as well as provide help to victims around coercive and controlling behaviour (CCB)
- MARAC (multi agency risk assessment conference) training scheduled for 2021
- Operation Encompass has a dedicated professional psychologist telephone helpline to help education workforce to support children and young people directly
- Work ongoing on trauma informed practice for education workforce in 2021



Data and trends indicate an increase in reports of Peer on Peer abuse

- Peer on Peer abuse CPD sessions delivered to deepen understanding - when to report to the police on a range of issues including sexual harassment/assault, drugs and weapons were delivered in December 2020 in line with KCSIE
- Peer on peer abuse more prominent in contextual safeguarding framework
- Dedicated NSPCC helpline to report sexual abuse in schools
- On going work to review policies and swift responses to any disclosures in summer newsletter



The pressures of COVID impacted on the health and wellbeing of the education workforce

- An Education Staff Self Care Guide developed
- A dedicated Education Staff Wellbeing page now available promoting and supporting staff wellbeing
- Reflective Supervision for DSLs pilot launched in January 2021
- Discussions underway to develop health and wellbeing support for Head Teachers



Pressures on education settings to manage learning through COVID

- Remote and blended learning: Curriculum and Pedagogy for COVID Resilience ran for senior leaders in Nov 2020
- Weekly Heads meetings for additional support from the LA
- Additional capacity through a dedicated COVID Schools Officer
- Slough Wellbeing for Education Return programme ran 14 seminars to 98 participants aimed at supporting education staff to identify and support mental and emotional health problems in pupils returning to school after lockdown and Covid-19



Criminal exploitation of children remains a local concern

- A task and finish group established to explore Children Missing Education (CME) and families involved in exploitation (CE) for a more coordinated response
- The refreshed threshold document now captures contextual safeguarding outside of the family home and recognises the associated risks.
- Slough Violence Taskforce has critical work streams to address serious violence in Slough and provide coordination to a range of interventions with Thames Valley Police - Violence Reduction Unit



Schools expressed growing concerns around parent's own needs which includes understanding risk in their children including setting clear boundaries and socio-economic factors impacted from COVID

- School Health and Wellbeing Project resource page includes websites and sources of information, advice and guidance for parents and carers to help them support their children's mental and emotional wellbeing
- Evidence based parenting programmes will be delivered from the summer term. Triple P for children, teens and incredible years programmes will include group and 121 session www.incredibleyears.com
- Dedicated page for parental support on Family Information service www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk