Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) Primary Forum Minutes

Wednesday 20th May 2020, 10:00 to 11:30 Remote meeting held via Blue Jeans

Attended:	Absent:
Penn Wood Primary School – Sonia Davies	Jo Matthews - Littledown School
Long Close School - Nick lee	Kerry Slattery - St Ethelbert's
SEBDOS– Julia Heath	
St Mary's CofE Primary School – Melissa Whatley	
Pippins School – Louise Nicholls	
Baylis Court Nursery- Philip Gregory	
Wexham Court Primary - Ranvir Chahal	
Del Matharu – Khalsa Primary	
Helen Hadaway- Our Lady of Peace School	
St Anthonys Catholic Primary School – Jess Costello	
Facilitator & Chair:	Guest attendees:
Jatinder Matharu- Education Safeguarding Officer	Allison Bradshaw – Berkshire Healthcare NHS
and Chair	Trust
	Kathryn Moles – HMI
	Susan Dyer, Schools Health & Wellbeing
	Officer & minutes

Item	Subject	Owner
1.	Welcome, introductions & minutes of last meeting 29.04.2020	JM
		All
	Actions from last meeting:	
	 ACTION (JM): To be followed up; a training need with front door as she 	
	has not had a response to her enquiries about private fostering —see later	
	in the agenda.	
	ACTION (All): Please continue to let JM know about any cases where	
	incorrect requests for CYP not at your school – see later in the agenda.	
	 Query raised about contacting families of concern – should school make 	
	contact or will Liz Christie at the Virtual School to make contact? Action:	
	JM to confirm and feed back – see later in the agenda.	
	 Action: JM asked for evidence via Egress for details of issues to follow up 	
	with the Trust. JM to follow up with SCST and feedback to DSL's — see	
	later in the agenda.	
	 ACTION (JM): send H&W updates and posters with minutes – completed. 	
	 Devices are allocated by DfE and a survey link is being sent to schools to 	
	establish the demand. Senior Leaders are working through the logistics;	
	ACTION (JM): to clarify criteria and update all – completed.	
	ACTION (JM): to follow up with the Trust/ link with schools if a DA based	
	referral is received to check if the school has received an OE notification –	
	see later in the agenda.	
	ACTION (All): JM has asked for examples of known DA cases when OE	
	notifications have not been received - OLOP & Colnbrook to provide case	

examples/completed.

Action to circulate DA posters - completed

2. Recovery roadmap to phased school return:

Guidance:

As you will all be aware and keeping abreast with the news, the government announced on Sunday 10th May 2020 that schools **may** reopen for some primary year groups from 1 June. These plans will only go ahead if the government's monitoring of the coronavirus situation indicates that this will be safe over the coming weeks with protective measures in place.

Since 23 March 2020, education and childcare settings have only been open to priority groups of vulnerable children and children of critical workers. The government has announced primary schools **may** partially reopen from 1 June which may reopen for pupils in **Reception**, **Year 1 and Year 6** (preparing for transition). Early years settings (nurseries and childminders) in England **may** also reopen for children at this point if safe to do so. The government's ambition is that all primary school pupils will return to school for a month before summer holidays, if feasible.

Secondary schools may open for some pupils before summer holidays and you should consider preparation to begin some face-to-face contact with year **10 and 12 pupils** who have key exams next year.

Feedback from schools:

- The updates are very useful but at times very overwhelming because of the volume.
- However all agreed they would like updates from JM to continue even if they are subsequently received from other sources.
- Discussions between the Heads and the LA though the SEPB indicating Slough schools to open 8th June rather than 1st June.

Action: JM to add relevant guidance in safeguarding newsletter.

Kathryn Moles, shared her views:

- Suggested that the government documents are GUIDANCE and it is important to ensure that decisions are made based on what is best for individual contexts - schools and children.
- Seems to be an increased emphasis on encouraging vulnerable and disadvantaged children to attend.
- Routines to support safeguarding will be different but need to be clear and shared with school workforce.
- Understands the joint letter has been sent out via the LA Facebook site and website rather than an official letter on headed paper with the 8th June date.

Highlighted the importance of working together within schools e.g. DSLs, SENDCo, PSHE and Health & Wellbeing Leads. Apologised that if people have dual roles



they might receive the same information more than once.

Transitions:

Start to think about transitions for children leaving or coming to your school. How to make contact with key leads in 'receiving schools' ahead to share issues, concerns etc so a smoother transition can take place?

Thinking about remote virtual tours of the school and welcome assemblies.

A booklet has been circulated from The Anna Freud Centre: <u>Managing</u> <u>unexpected endings and transitions</u> which contains some good suggestions of ways to support children.

It has been suggested/requested that some kind of virtual transition days could be organised for year 6 pupils moving on to secondary schools.

Feedback from schools:

- Agreed that sharing DSL details is a good idea and no objections with details being shared.
- SEBDOS are receiving referrals for extra support around transition. They have capacity to accommodate this (referrals to Julia Heath: <u>julia.heath@littledown.slough.sch.uk</u>) SEBDOS are offering a workshop for parents of children moving from nursery to reception or reception to year 1. This workshop will be via Zoom.

SEND:

Risk assessments guidance applicable from 01.05.2020 to 25.09.2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-law-on-education-health-and-care-needs-assessments-and-plans-due-to-coronavirus

3. Health and Wellbeing

AΒ

Mental Health Support Team and Getting Help Service – Alison Bradshaw ACTION: JM Presentation and remote offer guide is attached with minutes

- Schools that are part of the MHST Cluster should have had or scheduled a one to one meeting.
- Still scheduled to go live in September.
- Referrals are being taken from host schools now.
- Referral pathway is currently being developed with host schools and will be published ready for September.
- Other schools in the MHST cluster can refer from September.
- Next newsletter will be published after half term.
- Getting Help service, accessible via Early Help is available to all schools in Slough.
- Access to Getting Help is via the Front Door using a MARF including details
 of mental health need. MARF is being reviewed to ensure it is included in
 the drop-down menu.

4. COVID Agency Updates



JM



FRONT DOOR

1. SCST have advised CYP @ home can be visited and staff have PPE. Home visits are being conducted.

- 2. Following the actions from last meeting: Fanny Jacob (Head of Front door) has disseminated widely to all staff regarding increased vigilance when requesting pupil details from the schools and to check the correct pupil's details against the correct school. SCST may call the school in advance to check if the child goes to their school before sending out the requests to prevent any data breaches.
- 3. Through tracking some cases it is apparent there are variations in how schools are contacted for information. For example currently schools and other professionals are being contacted only when the referral progresses to an assessment. A dialogue with the family takes places and onward signposting to either NFA, IAG or stepped down to EH. Schools and other professionals at this stage may not be contacted. This process is being reviewed with the aim is to make contact with professionals as soon as a contact is received to gather information. An update will be available shortly.
- 4. The Private Fostering training need at the front door as discussed. Fanny has requested all teams discuss as part of their team meetings as a standard agenda item so all Hub members are familiar with the private fostering process.
- 5. All Core groups should be held as a multi agency meeting by telephone LOOP UP call and they are working towards some consistency across all hubs. Minutes and care plans should be circulated ahead of the meetings (usually within 5 working days) but under the current capacity issues this may not always be possible.

ACTION: ALL If you are not receiving the minutes, plans or having multi agency meetings then please forward these cases to me via Egress to track.

Feeback from SCST Reviewing Service for ICPC & RCPC – temporary measures during COVID:

All ICPCs are held by Loop up (virtual conferencing); professionals are sent the dial in instructions in advance.

All RCPCs are a paper based review (Chair reviews the plan and risk based upon the SW/Professionals reports and decision making sheets). The Chair will only call the professional if there is something missing from their report, or information needs to be clarified. Professionals do not need to be waiting for the chair to call. If the chair cannot get through to the professional they will leave a message.

Some professionals have indicated that they are unable to complete the decision making sheet prior to the meeting as they have not heard the discussion; there will be no formal discussion. Professionals must complete the decision making sheet and recommendation based on what is in their report and what they know about the family and level of risk, taking into consideration information shared at



Core Group Meetings (which remain a requirement). It will then be for the chair to weigh up all of the information and recommendations before deciding whether or not the CP plan needs to continue.

Schools felt the decision making process can not guarantee safety where children are being stepped down during lockdown. Schools shared concerns on the final decision making process down does not appear transparent and CIN and CP cases should continue with their current status until lockdown is lifted.

ACTION: JM to share concerns with Reviewing Service and feed back.

Clarification on vulnerable children checks:

Liz Christie from the Virtual School is only responding to parents who have queries about the letters issued by SCST about vulnerable children where they should be in school and it is safe to do so. She is <u>not</u> contacting all vulnerable children on your school lists which are not known to social care and on the edge of services. As a school you should be making contact (virtual, remotely, phone call, and/or door step – if required) with your vulnerable families regularly to keep in contact which I know most of you are already doing so. Social workers will be in contact.

The Government would like as many vulnerable children to be in school as possible. Please encourage the families where possible to send vulnerable children back to school if they are not shielding nor have any underlying health conditions.

ACTIONS:

Feedback from schools:

- An up to date list of HUBS details requested. JM to follow up
- JM clarified that if reports are not received prior to a meeting DSLs should contact the hub coordinator/SW for the report.

Updates on DfE laptops for disadvantaged children:

Leaders from SBC, SCST and Heads are working through the logistics about drawing down the funding and exploring criteria for allocation. Each local area has been allocated a number of these devices from the DfE which is significantly lower than the expected demand. The process is currently being worked through with the SEPB.

EARLY HELP; the EH review has been completed and the protocol has been attached to the minutes. Please use Family Information Service to access support services for families in need.

https://www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk/kb5/sloughcst/directory/home.page

The parenting support visual was circulated on 14.05.2020

6. **Domestic Abuse – Operation Encompass**

JM

- •Op Encompass is currently fragmented and TVP are aware of some of the issues highlighted
- •Sometimes parents do not provide the children's school details therefore Op Encompass is unable to send the notifications to the schools
- Police officers may not always update the school details.



•On occasions the incorrect details are shared whether the school or the named DSL in school. It would be helpful for schools to email back if the incorrect details have been sent to them along with the correct name of the school where the child is currently at.

ACTION: ALL DSL's to check DSL details are correct to receive Op Encompass notifications. If DSL receive a notification for a child not in their school, please feed this back to Operation Encompass as the parent may be providing incorrect information.

Feedback from schools:

On some occasions it was reported where an assessment is taking
place regarding older siblings but primary schools not being contacted
regarding younger siblings. In some cases, the primary school is
contacted as an after thought just prior to closing the case.

ACTION: JM to raise siblings issue with SCST.

DA Campaign - TVP & DA

A link will be attached to the minutes to all the DA resources including the perpetrators programme support helpline can be downloaded from TVP website here

Specific questions for schools to be fed back by JM:

- What are your concerns in relation to DA as lockdown restrictions are lifted?
- What DA specific resources do staff/young people require during the lockdown and following restrictions being lifted?

Some schools stated that services for children are few and between. Most services are focussed on the victim and the perpetrator.

SEBDOS are working on a support pack for children as there seems to be a gap in provision in this area. Contact Julia.heath@littledown.slough.sch.uk for more details.

ACTION: JM — to circulate by email to allow some reflection time before providing feedback to the DA strategic group.

7. Local trends – Child Exploitation/ Policy & Procedure

A mapping exercise has been completed, pulling together all support on offer across Slough through EH. This will be circulated shortly and it would be helpful to get some feedback on gaps in provision so services/interventions can be commissioned accordingly.

ACTION: JM to include CE on the next agenda item for a wider discussion.

Andy Moore has been seconded to the Violence Reduction Unit across Thames Valley for implementation of a strategic plan around violence within and outside the school system. Further details will be shared on this project over the coming weeks.

MACE referrals – MACE Panel (multi agency child exploitation) which replaces the previous Serious Youth Violence and SEMRAC meetings. This multi-agency meeting will continue to meet on a monthly basis to review and consider risks and

JM



	actions for children who are at risk of child exploitation. Referrals can be directly	
	to the panel for consideration.	
	SCST are in the process of recruiting a CE manager as this is currently vacant.	
8.	<u>AOB</u>	All
	 Safeguarding Partnership newsletter fortnightly during COVID) – to be published this week (combined with the Education Safeguarding Newsletter during COVID). 	
	Remote CPD – What is the need?	
	Feedback from participants:	
	 Those present did not feel they required any remote CPD at present. 	
	 Query if there is a checklist for requirements for annual update training 	
	for staff so DSLs can deliver this training.	
	ACTION: JM to develop and circulate a checklist.	
	Agenda items for next meeting:	
	What type of interventions do you think would be helpful around CE for your CYP?	
9.	Date of next Primary DSL Forum	
	Meeting monthly during COVID.	
	Next meeting date: Wednesday 17 th June 2020 at 1000	
	https://bluejeans.com/7568440105/1273	