

Welcome back from a sun soaked summer. I hope you all managed to relax and topped up on your vitamin D.

There are colossal changes this term including the LSCB moving towards a safeguarding partnership arrangement, Slough Borough Council now operating a partnership offer, a new Ofsted framework, additional funding for mental health support in Slough schools and Sec 175 audit platform is now open for 2019 submissions!



The **LA school effectiveness partnership offer** is effective from September 2019. To date the council have continued to fund school improvement services despite receiving no income, but we can no longer afford to do so at the same level. All Slough Head teachers were consulted last term of the core council offer and the schedule for the subscription services and schools have already opted to subscribe or not into the offer. **Please check with your Head teacher if you have purchased the LA partnership subscription.**

What does the partnership offer mean for DSL's directly?

The **core safeguarding offer** **everyone gets includes:

- On-line Safeguarding audit tool
- Basic liaison and referral with Ofsted/DfE complaints
- Safeguarding Newsletter – Three times a year
- Basic advice and guidance

Schools who have bought the **additional safeguarding subscription service** include all of the above and:

- DSL networks x three a year - Slough services, policies and procedures
- three additional briefings per year
- Information and advice and when needed via phone/email
- Dealing with Ofsted/DfE complaints including school follow up and report when required
- Two free CPD sessions a year for DSL's safeguarding
- One free safeguarding governor training - training for safeguarding governors to carry out their functions around scrutiny and accountability
- Annual 'New to the role welcome meeting/Induction' for DSL/Governors in those roles
- Discounted rates for attending additional CPD sessions/events throughout the year (30%)
- Discounted rates for whole school bespoke safeguarding training (20%)



The arrangements for partnership working to safeguard children are changing. The Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) will be replaced with multi-agency safeguarding partnership arrangements. This

encompasses safeguarding and protecting **children and adults** from abuse, neglect and criminal activities including exploitation.

The three local safeguarding partners are:

- East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Director of nursing and quality
- Thames Valley Police: Slough Borough commander
- Slough Local Authority; Statutory Directors of Childrens services and Statutory Director of Adult services, Chief executive.

This group is made up of statutory leads for safeguarding adults, safeguarding children and the community safety partnership. (This includes the delivery of the "Safeguarding Partners" function described in Working Together to safeguard children 2018. They provide overall strategic leadership to the safeguarding partnership system. Each has a shared and equal duty to lead the safeguarding system in Slough. Please update your policy and guidance documents with the new arrangements!

More information can be found here: [Safeguarding Partners](#)





Please welcome Susan Whitfield Dyer, the new member of our team. She is the Health and Wellbeing Officer and will be making contact with schools to help map and develop Health and Wellbeing plans over the coming months. She will be attending the DSL forums in September, alternatively you can email if you want to know more at susan.dyer@slough.gov.uk | 07753 316916.



Some fantastic news!!

Slough has been successful in securing funding for the **Mental Health Support Team (MHST)** to support the Early Help Preventative model around mental health provision. MHSTs will have three core functions:

- 1) To deliver evidence-based interventions for mild to moderate mental health issues, alongside existing provision such as counselling, educational psychologists and school nurses. This will build on the menu of support already available and will not be replacing it.
- 2) To support a Senior Mental Health Lead in each education setting to introduce or develop a whole school or college approach.
- 3) To give timely advice to school and college staff and liaising with external specialist services to help child and young people get the right support and stay in education.

The MHST will have four Education Mental Health Practitioners, who will support a pupil population of up to 8,000. Their role will be to deliver evidence-based interventions for mild to moderate mental health issues through:

- Face to face work: for example, effective brief, low-intensity interventions for children, young people experiencing anxiety, low mood, friendship difficulties and behavioural difficulties.
- Group work: for pupils or parents such as drop ins, and group Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for young people for conditions such as self-harm and anxiety.
- Group parenting classes: to include issues around communication difficulties.

Further details about the programme can be found in the briefing paper here: [Mental Health Support](#)

The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will be sharing news and developments on the project in the next few weeks and I will share more details at the DSL Network meeting later this month. Watch this space!!!



All of you will have received an email from me over the summer to advise the **Sec 175 Safeguarding Audit** portal is now open for your 2019 updates. There is 13 weeks to complete the audit which will hopefully align our reporting now moving forward for subsequent years. You can log in here:

<https://sloughboroughcouncil.vc-enable.co.uk/Admin/Home>
Submission date for the audit is **Friday 25 October 2019**.



There are some fantastic training opportunities from modern day slavery through to criminal exploitation of children (see CPD section for further details). There is also a **New to the role of DSL** course scheduled for aspiring DSLs on the **27 September 2019**. Book now if you are newly appointed into your DSL role here: [Training](#)

I am really excited about our new '**Learning from Experience**' workshop with the latest cutting edge from domestic abuse serious case reviews (SCR) which will be taking place on 2 October 2019.

We are celebrating **97% of our**



primary schools have received input from the NSPCC schools service to their students. Only two schools left! You can find out more about the programme and the additional support the NSPCC offer to schools to help safeguard children including their SEND program and parent online safety workshops here: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe/>. NSPCC posters will be available at the next DSL forum.

We are reviewing our access to the LINK website (the interface for communications between the LA and schools. Have your say on the website and help drive improvements to the system moving forward: Please click here for the short survey: <https://thelink.slough.gov.uk/news/have-your-say-about-thelink>

Finally, if any school/setting would like additional **Egress accounts**, please review your usage and how many licences you require and email: _egress@slough.gov.uk by **13 September 2019**.





Tools and resources

Transitions: Helping children make the step up to secondary school

We know making the transition from primary to secondary school can be a big step for some children. Place2Be, a children's mental health charity, have produced a range of useful resources on this area for children and parents.

This includes tips and guidance on how:

- Parents can help prepare their child emotionally for their new school environment;
- Children can be supported through some of the common practical challenges of moving to secondary school; and
- Children can be supported as they develop into their teenage years.

[Find out more here >>](#)

The **Escalation Policy** was revised in April 2019 and has now been uploaded onto the Pan Berkshire Child Protection Procedures Manual. The 'Resolving Professional Disagreement and Escalation' policy details can be found here: [Escalation Policy](#)

The **child exploitation (CE) screening tool** is now 'live' for anyone who works with children. Often, children do not recognise themselves as victims, or that they are being groomed, and as a result disclosures of such abuse can be unlikely. Therefore, this indicator tool aids the identification of exploitation. If you are concerned a child is being exploited, complete the tool and make a referral to children's social care. [LSCB CE Tool](#)

The Slough **neglect screening tool** seminars will discuss non-compliance and consent issues

as a key component of risk factors in neglect which we have learned from serious case reviews. The two hour seminar will help practitioners with understanding the application of practice standards around neglect and the application of the neglect tool. The workshop dates can be found further down under the CPD section including booking guidance. The neglect strategy can be found here: [LSCB Neglect Tool](#)

The **mental health directory** has been uploaded onto the Family Information Service portal and can be accessed through the [LINK here: Emotional-wellbeing](#) Please note this will be updated over the coming months as new services emerge.

The revised **hub structure** for September 2019 at the Children's Trust has been sent with newsletter.



2019/2020 DSL Network dates

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer term	Autumn term
Wed 25 Sept 2019	Wed 8 Jan 2020	Wed 29 April 2020	Wed 23 Sept 2020
Thur 26 Sept 2019	Thur 9 Jan 2020	Thur 30 April 2020	Thur 24 Sept 2020





Local updates and projects

Specialist sexual health Garden Clinic service is changing to an appointment-only system

From August 2019, in order to reduce the waiting times for patients, the specialist sexual health Garden Clinic service in Upton Hospital Slough, Skimped Hill Bracknell, and St Mark's Hospital Maidenhead will be providing the majority of their service via an appointment-only system, although some services will still be drop-in. Appointments will be bookable online at www.safesexberkshire.nhs.uk.

There are many other ways to get help from home testing kit via the website, GPs are able to offer most of the routine tests and contraceptive procedures, local pharmacists can give help and advice, and can provide medication or treatment for many conditions.

Children missing education (CME)

In addition to following your internal procedures regarding CME it is also worth exploring with the family/young person if they were also missing from home. Missing episodes from home may indicate risky behaviours. If you are worried about a vulnerable child missing please contact children's social care.

Bereaved by suicide free support service launched Berkshire-wide

A free support service for families bereaved by suicide was launched in July 2019.

The service is run by Victim Support and has been commissioned by Slough Borough Council, Wokingham Borough Council, and Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (BHFT).

To be referred to the service, people can email BBS.support@victimsupport.org.uk or call the free Victim Support line, 24 hours a day, every day on 0808 16 89 111.

For more information visit: [Victim support](#).

In the last newsletter I highlighted the **Early Help panel** and its remit. It is currently available for professionals who are struggling with complex cases with providing multi-agency decision making and support for children and families with complex needs and cases that Lead Professionals within the community/school are unable to progress.

For making a referral or if you are interested in becoming an Early Help panel member please email Operational Manager donna.briggs@slough.gov.uk | 01753 476589

Local intelligence (Intel)

We welcome the support of the education sector to ensure our children are kept as safe as possible in school settings and will help build up a profile of Slough hotspots and areas of concern that we can target specific resources to tackle local issues.

The 1½ hour free workshops are to help us understand what type of intelligence to gather/capture and how to report it. Why it's vital to keeping people safe from gangs, youth violence, sexual exploitation, modern slavery. Workshops will run on 9 September 2019 and 9 December 2019. If you are interested in attending please email nadine.barrett@slough.gov.uk

The Intel form can be downloaded here [Intel form](#)



Local updates and projects *continued*

County Lines

We will continue to work as a partnership to tackle current threats and harms in an innovative way.

You will already be aware of Alter-Ego's county lines performances for year eight students and professionals training that will be delivered in October/November 2019. In addition a free additional session for parents and carers is available on Thursday 7

November 2019 from 18.30 to 2000 at The Curve, William St, Slough SL1 1XY. A flyer is available to download and send to all your parents here: [Parents County Line Flyer | Bookings](#)

The theatre education however is limited to one year group, so an input from Crime Stoppers Fearless Worker is also available for all **secondary schools**.

The sessions aim to educate and empower 11-16 year olds to help them make the right decisions about crime and violence. The

workshops are interactive, listening yet challenging young people's preconceptions about crime - particularly when it comes to debunking myths or glamorizing particular lifestyles. Sessions provide a safe platform to discuss issues in a non-judgmental way in order to educate and change young people's behaviour and perceptions. Contact Josh for further details:

Josh.Newman@crimestoppers-uk.org



National updates and resources

New Ofsted framework published - 'The real substance of education'

The new Ofsted Education Inspection Framework (EIF) [Ofsted Framework 2019](#) for September 2019 has been published.

The Education Inspection Framework (EIF) has four judgements:

1. Quality of Education
2. Behaviour and Attitudes
3. Personal Development
4. Leadership and Management

Personal Development includes:

- British values
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

- Relationships and sex education
- Health education, including safety
- Mental health awareness and support

Safeguarding won't be graded specifically in the new Ofsted Education Inspection Framework for September 2019, but it will be referenced in the Leadership and Management section of the report.

Inspectors will be looking for evidence that 'the provider has a culture of safeguarding that supports effective arrangements to identify learners who may be at risk; which responds in a timely way; and that staff recruitment is managed and any allegations are dealt with appropriately.

In the new EIF, inspectors will be looking closely at how the behaviour of learners is being managed, and the strategies the school has to develop alternative strategies to exclusion. Importantly, inspectors will look for evidence that the school is taking account of any safeguarding risks to pupils who may be excluded. The inspectors may include visit units where pupils are attending off site units and assess safeguarding procedures, the quality of education and how effectively the unit helps to improve pupils' behaviour, learning and attendance.



National updates and resources *continued*

They will still require the usual request by 8am on the first day of inspection, schools must make available to inspectors, a list of safeguarding referrals made to the DSL, and a list of those that were subsequently referred to the local authority, along with brief details of the resolution. There should also be a list of all pupils who cases are open to children's services/social care and for whom there is a multi-agency plan as outlined in the school Inspection Handbook 2019.

Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills (from September 2019)

Inspecting safeguarding 2019 was updated in 2018 to take account of the publication of Keeping Children Safe in Education and incorporates the idea of Contextual Safeguarding. As well as child protection risks at home, the document also references risks 'outside the home such as sexual and/or criminal exploitation, radicalisation, bullying and children going missing.'

New risks specified in the document include risks linked to using technology and social media:

- online bullying;
- the risks of being groomed online for exploitation or radicalisation (Inc County Lines);

- and risks of accessing and generating inappropriate content, for example 'sexting' and cases of peer on peer abuse

Schools should have clear systems in place, so that any pupil whose behaviour is giving a cause for concern is screened for possible abuse or trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACE'S) should be considered.

The signs of successful safeguarding arrangements

Adults working with [children and young people] know and understand the indicators that may suggest that a child, young person or vulnerable adult is suffering or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or harm and they take the appropriate and necessary action in accordance with local procedures and statutory guidance.

Effective safeguarding can be seen when:

Children and learners are protected and know how to get support if they experience bullying, homophobic behaviour, racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination. Any discriminatory behaviours are challenged and help and support are given to children about how to treat others with respect.

- Adults understand the risks associated with using technology, including social media, of bullying, grooming, exploiting, radicalising or abusing children or learners.

- In cases of peer-on-peer abuse, staff should consider what support might be needed for the perpetrators as well as the victims.

Leadership and safeguarding culture

Inspectors will look at 'how effectively leaders and governors create a safeguarding culture in the setting'.

The inspection guidance focuses on staff understanding how to handle reports of sexual violence and harassment (peer on peer) between children, both on and outside school premises. Inspectors will check that this training has taken place and that staff know what to do and how this is dealt with should be covered adequately in the child protection and safeguarding policy.

Other additions include schools identifying learners who may need support with their mental health (paragraph 19); and that children are supported to 'understand what constitutes a healthy relationship both online and offline, and to recognise risk'.

Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education **PHSE**

The new curriculum will be mandatory from September 2020. Schools are encouraged to adopt the new curriculum early from September 2019.



National updates and resources *continued*

Children's Commissioner: Childhood vulnerability in numbers 2019

The Children's Commissioner's 2019 childhood vulnerability report examines the latest scale of, and trends over time in, rates of childhood vulnerability. It is an interesting read estimating 1.6 million children are from a vulnerable family background for whom the support is either patchy or non-existent and just over half of these children are 'invisible' to services. [Children's commissioner Report 2019](#)

Mental Health and Behaviour in schools Nov 2018

It gives advice on:

- how to create a whole school culture, including promoting positive mental health
- understanding the link between mental health and behaviour
- how to identify children with possible mental health problems

Where and how to put in place support, including working with external agencies where required can be found [here](#)

Schools in Mind is a free network run by Anna Freud Centre for school staff which shares practical, academic and clinical expertise regarding the wellbeing and mental health issues that affect schools. You can sign up for free trusted source of up-to-date and accessible information and resources that school leaders, teachers and support staff can use to support the mental health and wellbeing of the children and young people in their care here: [Anna Freud](#)

Anna Freud - The LINK

Programme is led by the Anna Freud Centre, funded by the Department for Education and supported by NHS England and will reach every school and college in England over the next four years. The Anna Freud Centre has been trialing the programme over the last four years and an independent evaluation has found that it:

- Strengthened communication and joint-working between schools and NHS children and young people's mental health services
- Improved understanding of mental health services and referral routes
- Improved knowledge and awareness of mental health issues among school lead contacts
- Improved timeliness and appropriateness of referrals

A short animation of the programme is available here: [The-link-programme](#) further details on this programme locally will be available over the coming months.

Keeping children safe in education 2019 (KCSIE)

The Statutory guidance for schools and colleges on safeguarding children and safer recruitment, KCSIE has been reviewed and the 2019 draft documents have been issued. Schools and colleges should continue to use the 2018 KCSIE documents until they are withdrawn on 2 September 2019.

Remember to update and reference all your policies and documents with the new guidance. [KCSIE 2019](#)

There are no new expectations.

The changes are to be found on pages 108 and 109, and include:

- reference to the Safeguarding Partnerships that should be in place from September 2019 and will replace LSCBs
- references to the new curriculum for Relationships Education, and Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education
- reference to the new Ofsted framework
- reference to the new guidance 'Teaching online safety in school'
- ensure staff are aware of the changes to the Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019 which criminalise the act of 'up skirting'.

NEW Teaching online safety in school (DfE, 2019)

The government has published a new guidance document '[Teaching online safety in school](#)' Teaching online safety. It outlines to schools the importance of helping children and young people not only use the internet safely, but also give them opportunities to learn how to behave online.

The guidance says that there are many areas in the curriculum where the topics could be taught, not least in the new compulsory Relationships (Sex Education) and Health Education in place from September 2020. In these curriculum areas, pupils will be taught what positive, healthy and respectful online relationships look like.

Teaching online safety in school should be read in conjunction with [Education for a Connected World Framework \(UKCIS, 2018\)](#) which offers 'age specific advice about the online knowledge and skills that pupils should have the opportunity to develop at different stages of their lives.'





Staff CPD opportunities

CPD Session	Date	Booking
<p>The training below can be accessed via the link here: https://thelink.slough.gov.uk/events-and-training The cost is £145 for whole day training (6 hours +) and £90 for half day sessions (2½ hours +) per person</p>		
Experienced DSL training L3 (7 hours) 0930-1700	8 October 2019, 23 January 2020, 11 March 2020	
Safer Recruitment training (6 hours) 0930-1600	24 September 2019, 5 February 2020	
New to the role of DSL/SENDco (6 hours) 0930-1600	27 September 2019, 7 February 2020	
Governors Safeguarding session (2½ hours) twilight	Tbc	
<p>The training is offered through the LSCB. The link will provide more details about the course content below can be accessed via the link here: https://www.sloughsafeguardingboards.org.uk/lscb/lscb/training/multi-agency-training-offer-2019-2020-now-available-courses-start-in-may-book-e You will be issued with a ticket. We will contact you shortly afterwards to get a little more detail and confirm a place. A £100 no show fee applies and your safeguarding partnership board representative will be notified.</p>		
Learning from Experience' workshop Includes the latest cutting edge from domestic abuse serious case reviews (SCR)	2 October 2019	Click here for more information and to book.
Working Together to Safeguard Children (Targeted safeguarding training L3 via LSCB) (7 hours)	2 October 2019, 7 November 2019, 30 January 2020, 5 March 2020	https://slough13workingtogether.eventbrite.co.uk
"It's Closer than you think!" Criminal exploitation and modern slavery workshop AM and PM sessions available on each date. Each course runs from 0930-1230 or 1330-1600	11 September 2019, 6 November 2019 8 January 2020, 4 March 2020	https://itscloserthanyouthink.eventbrite.co.uk
"Difficult conversations"- Neglect Seminars 1200-1400 @ SMP	4 September 2019, 16 October 2019, 20 November 2019, 18 December 2019, 8 January 2020, 5 February 2020, 26 February 2020, 25 March 2020	https://difficultconversations-neglectseminars.eventbrite.co.uk
Child Exploitation (CE) seminars (5 hours) 0930-1530	18 September 2019, 19 November 2019, 16 January 2020, 17 March 2020	https://criminalexploitationofchildrenandyoungpeople.eventbrite.co.uk
Managing allegations training (2 hours) 1000-1200	16 October 2019, 19 February 2020, 20 June 2020, 14 October 2020	http://www.scstrust.co.uk/what-we-do/multi-agency-training/
MARAC (Multi agency Risk assessment Conference) Training (2½ hours) 1000-1230	22 October 2019	Email corletta.rolle@slough.gov.uk Telephone: 01753 875206
Core Group and Case conference	Tbc	http://www.scstrust.co.uk/what-we-do/multi-agency-training/



Key contacts

- **Slough child protection procedures**
<http://berks.proceduresonline.com/slough/index.html>

Social Care Early Help

- **Slough Children's Services Trust Ltd**
If your concern is regarding the harm of a child or young person please immediately contact **01753 875362** and email sloughchildren.referrals@scstrust.co.uk
- **Social Care out of hours service**
01344 786543
- **Thames Valley Police**
101 www.thamesvalley.police.uk
- **NSPCC**
0800 800 5000
- **Child line**
0800 11 11
- **Slough LSCB**
Business Manager, Betty Lynch
Independent Chair, Nick Georgiou
safeguardingboards@slough.gov.uk

- **Whistleblowing and Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO):**
Nicola Johnstone - nicola.johnstone@scstrust.co.uk
nicola.johnstone@slough.gcsx.gov.uk
LADO Telephone: 01753 474053 / 0788 582837
LADO@slough.gcsx.gov.uk
- **NSPCC Whistleblowing advice line**
0800 028 0285 help@nspcc.org.uk
- **Education Safeguarding Officer**
Jatinder Matharu - 01753 875068/07714 858213
jatinder.matharu@slough.gov.uk
- **Prevent Coordinator**
Naheem Bashir - 01753 875201 / 07540 147340
naheem.bashir@slough.gov.uk
- **Prevent Education Officer**
Rabena Sharif - 07928 655038
rabena.sharif@slough.gov.uk
- **Education Standard and Effectiveness Officer (SEND)**
Deborah Bowers - 07712 548725
deborah.bowers@slough.gov.uk
- **CSE Exploitation Manager**
Emma Kester - 01753 875835
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