

Spring Term 2015 Senior Designated Person Network Meetings

Monday 23rd March 2015

Civic Suite, Runcorn Town Hall, Runcorn

&

Tuesday 24th March 2015

The Boardroom, Municipal Building, Widnes

Housekeeping



Agenda

3.30pm – 5pm

- 1. Local Authority Ofsted Inspection update**
- 2. Information Briefing**
- 3. AOB**

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers

The overall effectiveness of services and arrangements is derived from 3 key judgements:

- Protecting children
- Looked after children and achieving permanence
- Leadership, management and governance

The inspection also includes graded judgements on:

- Adoption
- Care leavers
- Effectiveness of the Halton Safeguarding Children Board

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection update

- Previously almost 45% of local authorities achieved Good or Outstanding under the Safeguarding and Looked After Children Inspection framework
- No Outstanding judgements achieved anywhere nationally so far
- No Outstanding or Good judgements in the North West

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Scale of the Inspection

The scale of inspection was greater in Halton than seen in some other Local Authority areas under this Framework

	Halton	A. N. Other LA
Population	126,000	635,500
KLOEs	33	39
Additional Documents	167	115
Audit cases	25	18
Meetings	c.100	53

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Ofsted's overall judgement is that Halton's Children's Services Require Improvement

The breakdown of judgements that contribute to this are:

- Children who need help & protection – Requires Improvement
- Children looked after & achieving permanence – Good
- Adoption – Good
- Care Leavers – Good
- Leadership, Management & Governance – Requires Improvement

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Ofsted definition of Requires Improvement

“In a local authority that requires improvement, there are no widespread or serious failures that create or leave children being harmed or at risk of harm. The welfare of looked after children is safeguarded and promoted. Minimum requirements are in place, however, the local authority is not yet delivering good protection, help and care for children, young people and families.”

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

North West Comparison

Local Authorities

Local Authority	Overall Effectiveness	The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection	The experiences and progress of children looked after and achieving permanence	Adoption performance	The experiences and progress of care leavers	Leadership, management and governance
Halton	<i>requires improvement</i>	<i>requires improvement</i>	<i>good</i>	<i>good</i>	<i>good</i>	<i>requires improvement</i>
Bolton	requires improvement	requires improvement	good	good	good	requires improvement
Liverpool	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement
Blackpool	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement
St. Helens	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement
Rochdale	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	requires improvement	inadequate	requires improvement
Manchester	inadequate	inadequate	requires improvement	inadequate	requires improvement	inadequate
Knowsley	inadequate	inadequate	requires improvement	inadequate	requires improvement	inadequate

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

North West Comparison

Local Safeguarding Children Board

Local Authority	LSCB effectiveness
Halton	<i>requires improvement</i>
Bolton	requires improvement
Liverpool	requires improvement
Blackpool	requires improvement
St. Helens	requires improvement
Rochdale	requires improvement
Manchester	inadequate
Knowsley	inadequate

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Priority Areas for Improvement

- Improve the quality of planning for children (child in need, child protection, care, pathway and personal education plans) to ensure that all plans are timely, prioritise key issues and enable parents, carers, children and young people to understand what needs to be achieved to improve children and young people's safety, well-being and educational achievement
- Strengthen frontline management oversight and capacity within the CART to ensure that referrals progress in a more timely way to Children's Social Care
- Ensure that all children and young people who go missing from home and care have a return home interview, and that information is made available to relevant professionals in a timely manner to inform risk assessment, management and planning

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Areas for Improvement

- Ensure that single assessment consistently provide analytical evaluation of risk and protective factors and are informed by good quality chronologies
- Ensure that the Independent Chairs of Child Protection Conferences have sufficient capacity to monitor the progress of plans between conferences and to distribute the minutes of conferences in a timely fashion
- Strengthen the participation of children and young people within Child In Need and Child Protection processes, in particular, their attendance at Child Protection core groups and conferences and their take-up of advocacy services. Gather feedback on their experience of such processes to help make improvements in the quality of practice

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Areas for Improvement

- Strengthen the consistency of core groups in analysing the impact of actions on intended outcomes of the plan
- Ensure that records of strategy discussions consistently include SMART actions and contingencies
- Strengthen the capacity of commissioned services to provide direct work to children and adult victims of domestic abuse, focusing on the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people
- Ensure that awareness raising of private fostering is sufficiently targeted within communities and amongst those working with children and families, and that it links to existing work on child sexual exploitation (CSE)

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Areas for Improvement

- Review the capacity of the Independent Reviewing Managers to ensure that it is sufficiently resourced to meet its statutory responsibilities and revise the escalation policy to ensure that challenge is recorded and that responses and actions are timely
- Further develop the role of the Head of the Virtual School to ensure that secondary schools are held to account fully for the attainment and progress of their children in care, and for reducing the number subject to fixed period exclusion
- Ensure that frontline management oversight of the pre-court proceedings process is sufficiently robust to avoid unnecessary delay within this process
- Improve the quality of child permanence reports in order that matching is robust and a child's history is clearly recorded

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Areas for Improvement

- Revise the fostering and adoption recruitment strategies to ensure that targets are set to match local need and to provide a sufficient number and range of placements
- Ensure that fostering records reflect thorough consideration of matching needs, including how any gaps will be met
- Ensure that young people who need life-story work receive it in a timely way
- Establish effective arrangements to ensure that the views and experiences of the Children in Care Council influence and inform the work of the corporate parenting partnership board
- Ensure that all care leavers are aware of their right to access health information about themselves and to health passports

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Authority Strengths

- A strong commitment from the Chief Executive and political leaders has been central to embedding a 'whole-authority' approach to improving outcomes for children
- The local authority and its partners have been proactive in tackling CSE. Awareness-raising publicity, a well embedded risk assessment tool and strong commissioned services are in place to support young people. Audits of practice and a joined up front-line approach all sit under the umbrella of a pan-Cheshire strategy
- Social workers are capable and committed and are well supported with regular reflective supervision and a comprehensive package of training and development opportunities

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Authority Strengths

- Early Intervention in Halton is increasingly effective in supporting children and families whose assessed needs fall below the threshold for social work intervention. This is supported by a strong Troubled Families programme, effective Children's Centres and a well embedded CAF
- The Levels of Need Framework and thresholds are well understood by social workers and partner agencies, and provides a good foundation for understanding and applying consistent thresholds for decision making
- Commissioned services are well targeted on identified priorities, and intelligent contract specification and management ensures that services provide value and are responsive to changing need

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Authority Strengths

- Halton's Disabled Children's Services viewed positively and meet all local needs
- Despite the considerable increase in the number of Children in Care (231 in November 2014, 145 in March 2013), **inspectors did not see any children or young people entering care who should not have done so.** The number of children looked after is now in line with similar local authorities. This situation is indicative of the improvements made in the past year by the senior management team
- Halton considers adoption for all children when appropriate and children move in to their adoptive families quicker than children in similar local authorities. Adopters say they are well prepared and supported by the local authority

Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Local Authority Strengths

- Halton is better than similar local authorities at keeping in touch with care leavers, ensures that they have appropriate accommodation, and supports a higher percentage into EET. This includes 6 at university and 4 included within the local authority's 11 'traineeship' posts. Care Leavers are also positive about their relationship with Advisers
- Educational Achievement at Primary level for Children in Care – gap in Halton is 19%, nationally 31%
- Children in Care know how to make complaints, that they have advocacy support and can use them
- In summary, the local authority is a good corporate parent

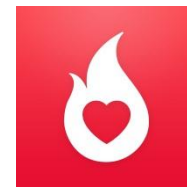
Local Authority Ofsted Inspection

Next Steps

- Continue to build on the good progress to date - Single Assessment, CART
- Planning – plans to be outcome focussed, SMART targets, plain English, ensuring plans are less formulaic
- Review processes on recruitment of foster carers
- Support to the Safeguarding Unit and how activity is recorded
- Reviewing and developing support across teams within the already restructured department

Information Briefing




Can you name these apps?







Information Briefing

Sites and Apps

Texting apps

-  Kik Messenger
-  ooVoo
-  WhatsApp





Micro-blogging apps and sites

-  Instagram
-  Tumblr
-  Twitter
-  Vine

Self-Destructing / Secret apps

-  Snapchat
-  Whisper
-  Yik Yak

Chatting, Meeting, Dating apps and sites

-  MeetMe
-  Omegle
-  Tinder
-  Hot or Not

Information Briefing

Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009

- New version of the guidance was released by the DfE on 26th February 2015
- Guidance is a lot clearer as to which members of staff may work within the Regulations
- The law has not changed therefore schools still need to be able to evidence what steps they have taken to ensure there is no one working within the school (and in the Regulations) who is Disqualified
- It is important that all schools consider the Regulations and how they apply and that they do not simply assume it is an issue for Primary / Infant schools

Information Briefing

NHS Integrated Sexual Health Team

- From November 2014 the NHS have been commissioned to deliver a range of sexual health services to improve the sexual health and wellbeing of young people in Halton
- This includes delivery of accredited health improvement, educational courses and sexual health awareness sessions to both young people and professionals
- A large focus of the new service is to deliver targeted interventions within schools
- This can include providing education, support, advice and guidance to pupils
- They can also provide a drop in service offering C-Card, Chlamydia screening, pregnancy testing, information and guidance, referral service and signposting

Information Briefing

NHS Integrated Sexual Health Team

The two Education Outreach workers are:

- Hayley Tooley and Kelly Cartwright

Also within the team are:

- Health Promotion specialist (LGBT) – Sexual Health
- Sexual Health Specialist / Co-ordinator (BME)
- Health Improvement Practitioner – Sexual Health

For more information or to discuss how the team can work with your school contact Hayley or Kelly on:

Hayley.Tooley@sthk.nhs.uk

Kelly.Cartwright@sthk.nhs.uk

Information Briefing

ChildLine Schools Service



The ChildLine Schools Service are visiting primary schools

[Book an appointment](#) ▶



This free of charge service is now booking in schools across this area. Please click on 'Book an appointment' above and add your details. Your ChildLine Area Coordinator will then get in touch to arrange a meeting with the headteacher or school representative to explain more about our service and to arrange visit dates.

What is ChildLine Schools Service?

All children have the right to be happy and safe, but many suffer abuse in silence, unable to speak out. [The ChildLine Schools Service](#) helps children to understand abuse, know how to protect themselves, and where to get help and support if needed.

The ChildLine Schools Service focuses on primary school children, aged 9 - 11 years old. It is delivered in two parts:

Assembly

An assembly delivered in an age appropriate way, covering the definitions of abuse, places to go to for help and an introduction to ChildLine.

Follow-up workshop

The assembly is followed by a workshop one to two weeks later. This interactive classroom-based workshop reinforces the key messages given in the assembly.

Benefits

The Schools Service programme can be especially important in creating a safe space for children to discuss their understanding of what can be complex, difficult and sensitive issues.

One head teacher said *'The content and style of the workshops was fun, varied and age appropriate. The children were all able to join in and answer questions regardless of their ability or emotional development and the materials were sensitively used without being graphic.'*

The many benefits for schools include the links that the Schools Service programme makes to the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum and to the ethos of safeguarding within the school. The Schools Service also provides evidence for schools in relation to aspects of the OFSTED inspection framework 2012.

Next steps

Please click on the box above to book an appointment and we will be in touch.

For any further information please contact your local ChildLine Area Coordinator, Kristy Messham, who covers Cheshire East, Cheshire West & Chester, Warrington & Halton on **07961 246 144** or email kmessham@nspcc.org.uk.

Information Briefing

Hate Crime recording and reporting

- Schools are not required by law to report any prejudiced based incidents to the Local Authority, but there is a requirement to report such incidents to the Police
- In Halton, schools are asked to submit information as per the “Recording and Reporting Prejudiced Based Incidents; Guidance for Schools and Children’s Services” document in order for HBC to identify any areas of concern and provide appropriate support or services
- Cheshire Police intend to run some workshops regarding Hate Crime which will include what constitutes an incident of hate crime and what resources are available to schools to support how they address such incidents

Information Briefing

Prevent Duty Guidance

- Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain bodies (“specified authorities” listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”
- The Government has just released new guidance for these authorities regarding their duties under the Act
- These authorities includes schools
- The Prevent strategy is part of the overall counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. The aim of the Prevent strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

www.halton.gov.uk

Information Briefing

Prevent Duty Guidance

- The 2011 Prevent strategy has three specific strategic objectives:
 - respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it;
 - prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support; and
 - work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address
- Under the new guidance, schools must demonstrate activity in the following areas:
 1. Risk Assessment
 2. Working in Partnership
 3. Staff training
 4. IT policies

Information Briefing

Prevent Duty Guidance

In Cheshire, the contacts are as follows:

- Prevent Coordinator: Emma Hart, 01606 362147, emma.hart@cheshire.pnn.police.uk
- Channel Coordinator: Lesley Price, 01606 365986, Lesley.price@cheshire.pnn.police.uk
- Referrals to Prevent or Channel prevent@cheshire.pnn.police.uk or via the Counter Terrorism Branch office line on 01606 362121

Information Briefing

HSCB Escalation Policy

- The HSCB Escalation Policy is there to help professionals reach an agreement when there is dispute or disagreement about another agency's decisions or actions
- It is really important that schools use the Escalation Policy to raise any concerns they have
- It should be thought of as a tool to help resolve differences rather than something that would make a problem worse

What stops schools escalating problems?

How do we solve this?

Information Briefing

Child Sexual Exploitation

CSE Team

Halton's CSE Team commenced on 2nd March 2015. The team consists of:

- Principal Manager - Sandra Douglas
- CSE Social Worker - Selina Kent
- Police CSE Coordinator - DC Joanna Jones
- Police MFH Coordinator - Hannah Hargreaves
- Catch 22 CSE Case Worker - Mel Woods
- Catch 22 MFH Case Worker - Gemma Godfrey
- Young Addaction CSE Case Worker - Victoria Carroll
- CSE Education Welfare Officer - Jackie Burke
- CSE School Health Nurse - Debbie Wright
- CSE Parenting Link Worker - Colin Hughes

Information Briefing

Child Sexual Exploitation - Resource

Real Love Rocks, Barnardos

- Developed by Barnardos to promote healthy, consensual, safe relationships amongst children and young people. It seeks to raise awareness of grooming, child sexual exploitation and online safety.
- Two different editions for age appropriate learning:
Year 6 and Years 7 - 9
- Primary edition focuses on the importance of feeling free, happy and safe in future relationships
- Secondary also allows for discussion and activities around the importance of consent, and the impact of sexting and watching porn
- Resource pack contains animations, activities, conversation starters and games
- New website launched on 18th March 2015 (CSE Awareness Day)

www.barnardosrealloverocks.org.uk

www.halton.gov.uk

Information Briefing

Vulnerable Groups - Young Carers

- Identified numbers of Young Carers in Halton has risen dramatically in the last 12 months from just under 300 to over 450
- Schools must keep YC issues high on the agenda with *all* staff
- Section 96 of the Children and Families Act 2014 introduced new rights for YC's to improve how they are identified and supported
- From 1st April 2015 every YC is entitled to a request a YC needs assessment

Please don't forget...

- Halton Carers Centre are still available to come into school to deliver YC awareness raising in assemblies and staff meetings
- The Carers Trust and Halton Carers Centre “Young Carers Award” will be available in 2015 for schools to work towards.

Information Briefing

Vulnerable Groups - Private Fostering

What is your role?

- All professionals have a shared responsibility to work together to ensure that all privately fostered children are well cared for and safeguarded from harm

What should you be doing?

- **Detecting** – identifying potential Private Fostering arrangements
- **Promoting** – posters and leaflets visible around school and in reception areas
- **Advising** – when identified, professionals should advise and encourage families that they need to inform CSC of the arrangement themselves
- **Referring** – professionals should contact CSC and provide as much information as possible about the placement if a family is not willing to do so themselves

Information Briefing

Training Update, Spring 2015

Halton Safeguarding Children Board Training

- **Working Together to Safeguard Children**
30th June & 1st July 2015, 24th/25th September, 10th/11th November, 20th/21st January 2016 and 14th/15th March 2016
- **Working Together Refresher Training**
24th April 2015, 21st October and 4th February 2016
- **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Basic Awareness Training**
19th May 2015, 8th July, 6th November and 9th March 2016
- **Domestic Abuse & Safeguarding Children; the victim's journey**, ½ day training, dates & venues TBC
- **Homicide Prevention: Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour Based Violence DASH (2009) Front Line Professionals**, ½ day training, dates & venues TBC
- **E-Learning** (available via the website all year)

Child Sexual Exploitation: Keeping Them Safe; EPCAT Child Trafficking; Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Children Basic Awareness; Basic Awareness in Safeguarding Children; Complicated Matters: addressing Domestic and Sexual Violence, substance use and mental ill-health; Female Genital Mutilation: Recognising and Preventing FGM; Forced Marriage Unit; Safeguarding and Child Protection for Adults Working with Children

School Specific Training Programme

- **Safer Recruitment Refresher**, 9am – 12.30pm, 28th April 2015
- **Safer Recruitment**, 9am – 5.30pm, 30th April 2015
- **SDP/DDP Roles and Responsibilities for staff new to role**, 9am – 11.30am, 12th May 2015
- **SDP/DDP Roles and Responsibilities refresher**, 9am – 11.30am, 11th June 2015
- **Designated Governor for Safeguarding**, 9.30am – 12.30pm, 18th June 2015

Information Briefing

New Literature / Resources

- 1. Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board, SCR into CSE in Oxfordshire** (March 2015)
[Overview Report](#)
[OSCB SCR into CSE full report](#)
- 2. Government measures to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation** (March 2015)
[Prime Ministers Office press release](#)
[Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation](#)
- 3. Southampton Safeguarding Children Board, SCR into the death of Child K** (February 2015)
[SSCB Child K Overview Report](#)
- 4. ChildLine review into issues facing children** (February 2015)
[NSPCC press release](#)
[Childline review - under pressure](#)
- 5. NSPCC Share Aware Programme** (January 2015)
[NSPCC Press Release](#)
[NSPCC Share Aware website](#)
- 6. Disclosure & Barring Service**
 - DBC News – January Newsletter** [January newsletter](#)
 - DBS News – February Newsletter**
- 7. SCIE Useful Links page** [Useful Links](#)

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Any Other Business

AOB

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