

Multi-agency effectiveness learning briefing

Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership (DSPP) has a duty to evaluate multi-agency working through case file audits involving professionals from across the children's workforce, and in turn, share the learning regarding the quality of practice and lessons for improvements.

A Multi-Agency Case File Audit (MACFA) took place on 21st September 2021 which focussed on Exploitation – Online Harms

This briefing is to inform how changes can be made to professional practice across the agencies workforce to ensure Dudley's response and support to children and families are effective, robust and consistent.

Emerging Themes / Risk Factors identified

- Information sharing and better working together by professionals and organisations particularly engaging health in the work of the Exploitation Hub.
- Work with adult services to ensure that there is safe transition plans in place for young people turning 18 years old
- The use of the Exploitation Screening Tool has not been consistently utilised – only social workers completed screening tools in the cases discussed as part of the MACFA

Key messages for inter-agency learning

- There is a need to use the Child Exploitation Screening tool to identify and assess risk around young people (available on the [DSPP website](#))
- Awareness raising and information for professionals who work with young people around the online apps in use and any risks associated with them, this is also useful for parents and carers.
- There is a need to ensure that there is a strong link to join our services better in Dudley to enable us to support our children and young people.

Key points for Managers

- The importance of a trusted, consistent and meaningful relationship with a professional can make a difference to a child or young person.
- Regular changes in key workers can lead to a child having to re-tell their story multiple times could lead to re-traumatisation.
- Case notes for all children would benefit from chronological entries.

Key learning points for Practitioners

- Relationships between professionals and children and young people has been a strength identified in the MACFA.
- Professional curiosity and Making Every Contact Count is paramount to support those at risk of exploitation.
- The use of language by professionals to support how they engage with young people
- All practitioners can complete and submit a Child Exploitation Screening Tool should they suspect there is an exploitation concern

For more information visit the Child Exploitation web page on the DSPP website:
<https://safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk/safeguarding/child/work-with-children-young-people/child-exploitation/>

More Information

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Procedures

DSPP operates in partnership with other local areas in the West Midlands for its Multi-Agency safeguarding procedures – these cover a wide variety of situations that may be encountered.

Access the procedures at: <http://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/>

For more information on Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership, email us or visit our website below:



DSPPB@dudley.gov.uk



<http://safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk>

