NEW WSCB Website

The WSCB and WSAB are currently developing a new and improved website, a ‘one stop shop’ for ‘everything’ safeguarding in Warwickshire. News about when the WSCB website will go live is expected to be announced in Summer (issue 6) Newsletter.

Did Not Attend or Was Not Brought?

A 2 minute video animation has been produced by Nottingham City Safeguarding Board, along with NHS Nottingham City CCG and Nottingham City Council.

The video is a powerful reminder that children do not take themselves to health appointments, they have to be taken by parents or carers. It encourages practitioners to consider children as ‘was not brought’ instead of ‘did not attend’ and the potential wider possible indicators of neglect.

To access the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAdNL6d4lpk&feature=youtu.be

Law on Sexual Communications

From 03/04/17, under section 67 of Serious Crime Act 2015, the UK government has enacted a law which will make it illegal for adults to send sexual messages to children. This applies to both online/offline communication, including social media, email and letters. Any adult could face up to 2 years imprisonment and automatically placed on the sex offenders register.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

In February 2017, the DfE revised the statutory definition of CSE and also produced a guide for practitioners, local leaders and decision makers working to protect children from CSE.

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs when an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into:
(a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and or
(b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator.

The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

To access the new guidance, which replaces Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation (2009):

WSCB together with Barnardo’s deliver multi agency CSE training courses, either half or full day events throughout the year. To take a further a look at the courses or to reserve your place, access via WILMa.

SERIOUS CASE REVIEW (SCR)

Practitioner Messages from Child ‘T’ SCR

On 1st March 2017, the WSCB published an SCR following the death of child ‘T’, a 23 month old infant and a Practitioner Briefing Note. The purpose of SCRs is to explore whether there are changes that can be made to the safeguarding “system” so all involved are able to work better together and to reduce the likelihood of a similar event in the future.

To access a copy of the detailed child ‘T’ SCR report:
http://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/api/documents/WCCC-850-618

A Briefing Note: Practitioner Messages was circulated to all partner agencies which highlighted key messages that had been gathered. To access a copy, please click:
In October 2016, an audit sample of MARFs was completed within the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). Its purpose was to review the quality of information provided within each MARF; completed by a cross section of multi-agency representatives from the MASH Management team. The team were tasked to identify whether the information included on the MARFs aided decision making and whether further learning opportunities could be identified.

**Key findings**

- 30% of MARFs classed good/excellent quality
- 64% where parents/carers were not informed of the referral
- No reference to previous interventions and its effectiveness, i.e. Early Help, in the majority of cases
- 72% where the child’s voice is not included
- Not all basic data included, i.e. ethnicity, language, religion, telephone or email details

Parents/carers to be informed of referral (if safe for the child to do so)

All biographical data needs to be included

Include impact upon the child

State previous interventions, early help and details of impact

Include the child’s voice:
- What has the child/young person said?
- What has the child experienced?
- Has the child been spoken to and is clear about what will happen next? (47% did not state this on the referral)

Please ensure that the key learning messages are included in all future referrals.

For further information, a half day training course is available to all multi-agency staff: **SCB CS166 Working Together to Make Effective Referrals**

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**REVISED ESCALATION PROCEDURE**

The escalation procedure has been reviewed; it is now a requirement that all agencies must have an internal escalation procedure.

It requires all agencies to ensure that when staff consult a safeguarding lead in their agency about a child, that they are given feedback about what action has been taken as a result. If staff feel that the response that they have been given is insufficient or inappropriate, the internal escalation procedure should clearly detail how staff can approach this, and who they can liaise with, outside their line management.
**New**

Coming Soon...

3 Hour Learning Workshops for all Multi Agency staff

- How can we ensure that our children and young people feel helped by our safeguarding processes?
- How can we support children who make a disclosure of abuse or display help seeking behaviour?
- Interpreting Thresholds; is it Early Help Single Assessment or intervention by a Social Worker?
- What learning have we gained from good practice, as well as from Serious Case Reviews (SCRs)?

The workshops are designed to put learning into practice, using case studies, scenarios and discussions. Scheduled to take place at venues across the county over the coming months, for no more than 3 hours, each workshop will be facilitated by multi agency representatives.

Dates will be confirmed shortly, all bookings will need to be made via WILMa.

**Women and Equalities Committee**

Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Report 2016

A report in 2016, by the Women and Equalities Committee issued to the Government has highlighted the scale of sexual harassment and sexual violence within schools. Key findings include 29% of 16-18yr old girls having experienced unwanted sexual touching at school, 71% of boys and girls hear ‘slut’, ‘slag’ being used towards girls regularly and 59% of 13-21yr old girls have faced some form of sexual harassment at school or college in the past year.

To read the full report and it’s key findings:

**WSCB Training Directory 2017 - 2018**

“Safeguarding is Everyone’s Responsibility”

The WSCB Multi Agency training directory of courses are now available to book via WILMa.

Our training courses are designed to raise awareness and support staff, to develop a shared understanding of the different aspects involved in safeguarding our children in Warwickshire.

The emphasis on multi agency training continues. Evaluation feedback continues to positively highlight how WSCB training courses provide the opportunity to network with other professionals in a variety of roles from different organisations, all involved working with children, young people, their families/carers, which add another level to the training.

Packages have been updated to ensure they reflect current research, government drivers key strategic priorities of the WSCB, as well as findings from Serious Case Reviews (SCRs), both nationally and locally.

All bookings for WSCB courses must be made using the learning platform, WILMa

https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wilma

We will continue to add further dates and courses to the directory throughout the year, please check WILMa for the latest details.

To help search for our courses on WILMa, all course codes start with the pre-fix code SCB.

**WSCB Training Courses**

7th June SCB CS164—Raising Awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation (half day)

12th & 13th June SCB CS161—Effective Child Protection Planning & Core Group Working

19th June SCB CS165—Child Sexual Exploitation—Responsibilities, Reporting and Responding to CSE