

Safeguarding Updates

Issue 5 spring 2019

Signs of Safety

Plans to embed the Signs of Safety approach to safeguarding in the city are now underway. This brings together the practice of Leicestershire County Council, aligning processes across the LLR LSCB.

Large scale learning events are being scheduled during the spring term, with an opportunity to learn more about the Signs of Safety and time for professional discussion and reflection about how this can be embedded into practice.

Have you heard of the Signs of Safety? Are you looking to learn more about what this means for you and your practice? If so then be sure to book a place once publicity is made available.

In the meantime, the following links to the LSCB websites include further information including an information factsheet and presentation for your reference;

- [LRSB – signs of safety](#)
- [Leicester Safeguarding Children Board - signs of safety](#)

Neglect toolkit 2019

The Neglect Toolkit has been reviewed and amended to ensure that all information is relevant and up to date. A copy of the Neglect Toolkit 2019 can be found at <http://lrsb.org.uk/uploads/lr-lscb-neglect-toolkit-2019.pdf>

Be sure to use this information to support you in identifying if a child is at risk of/subject to neglect.

GDPR

GDPR regulations came in to force in 2018. Many providers have been unsure of how this may impact on their ability to effectively share personal information about children and families where there is a safeguarding concern. This is with particular regard to 'consent' to use of information.

What is important is how you communicate your internal policies and procedures for use of personal information to families. You should make clear that under Article 6 and 9 of the GDPR act, consent is not required to share information in relation to safeguarding. This is to reflect your **statutory duty** and **health and social care priorities**. Your actions need to be justifiable in relation to the wellbeing of the child.

Multi-agency training programme

The programme of safeguarding training delivered by the LSCB continues to be added to periodically. It is important that courses of interest are booked promptly to avoid disappointment as capacity is limited.

The pricing structure has now been implemented for all LSCB training opportunities and costs will be detailed when making a booking. To ensure that you receive your 50% discount as an early year's provider, please ensure that you have your provisions EY number to hand when submitting your booking.

Approved training providers

To reflect the challenges faced by the sector in accessing safeguarding courses from the multiagency training programme, the LSCB are looking to produce a list of approved safeguarding training providers. This would mean that early year's providers had a selection of reputable training providers to select from, with whom they can be confident that the quality of learning is sound.

To approve a training provider, appropriate vetting would take place by the LSCB. The provider will be required to attend a learning event led by the LSCB and would be expected to maintain engagement throughout each year. This is to ensure that standards are met and that the training provider has sufficient local intelligence to enable them to successfully train Leicester's workforce.

The intended outcome is increased availability on safeguarding courses within the city, as well as a wider variety of safeguarding topics covered e.g. Designated Safeguarding Lead Training.

Trilogy of risk

The LLR LSCB are promoting awareness of the Trilogy of Risk (also referred to as the Toxic Trio) in early years, to support practitioners in recognising the impact that family challenges can have on the safety and wellbeing of the child. Through raised awareness, professionals are able to identify risks more promptly. Effective communication across multiagency working can then enable services to offer targeted and appropriate intervention.

The Trilogy of Risk refers to;

- Misuse of drugs and alcohol
- Domestic violence
- Mental ill health

Lessons from serious case reviews would indicate that where one or more of the above issues are present within the family, there is a significant increase of the risk to the child or vulnerable adult of harm/abuse due to the potential impact on parenting capacity.

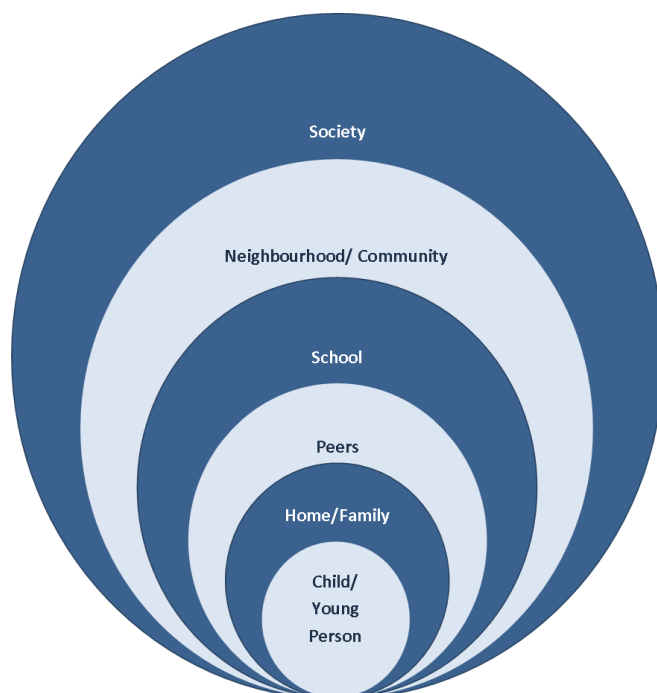
Whilst the focus of the trilogy of risk is centered on the above, it is not to detract from other influencing factors such as poor housing, financial strain, physical wellbeing or antisocial behaviour etc.

To find out more, including a short informative power point presentation, posters, leaflets and resources, please see the link below;

<http://lcitylscb.org/information-for-practitioners/safeguarding-topics/trilogy-of-risk/>

Contextual Safeguarding – What do you need to know?

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 gives reference to *Contextual Safeguarding* and how it can impact on children and young people.



“As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online.” Point 33, Page 23.

We therefore need to have a better awareness and understanding of what contextual safeguarding means to our practice in the early years. Essentially, looking at the bigger picture and the influence of threats from outside of the home e.g. radicalisation, criminal coercion, exploitation, online abuse, trafficking etc. all of which can impact on parenting capacity.

It is important that practitioners are provided with opportunities to develop their understanding of the indicators of contextual safeguarding, to enable them to identify risks promptly and effectively.

See Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018 for more information.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729914/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children-2018.pdf

Multi-agency Referral Form (MARF)

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The Multi-agency Referral Form is being created to align services and have a single consistent approach for all safeguarding referrals.

To support the launch of the new MARF, short workshops are being developed to unpick the referral process and how to make best use of the new form. The updates expected to the thresholds will also be explored, to offer clarity to practitioners regarding processes and best practice.

Until the launch of the MARF, please continue to use the existing referral process as detailed in the LLRSCB Online Procedures;

http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_referr.html?zoom_highlight=making+a+referral#making