



November 2017

Safer Snippets

The latest safeguarding news and updates, circulated to support continued learning and development and to keep safeguarding children high on the agenda in Dudley.

- **New children's services hub on Guardian website**
The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) has launched a new 'NSPCC children's services hub' on the Guardian website. This currently features an article about the Graded Care Profile 2 assessment tool, a tool which we have recently adopted in Dudley to support practitioners in measuring quality of care.
See: <http://bit.ly/2yZGJo6>
- **Child Bereavement UK - new awareness and fundraising campaign**
Child Bereavement UK has launched a new TV and digital campaign to raise awareness of the needs of bereaved children and families. Called One More Minute, it consists of a series of short films designed to highlight the need for support and to encourage people to start conversations about bereavement.
See: <http://bit.ly/2zqZkjl>
- **Analysing plans for improving mental health services**
Since 2015 Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in England have been required to produce Local Transformation Plans setting out how they will improve children's mental health. The latest versions of these have recently been examined by the NSPCC to see what progress has been made.
See: <http://bit.ly/2yFFzSY>
- **Awareness of Forced Marriage: Free online training**
This free safeguarding course aims to raise awareness of forced marriage. Developed for the Home Office by Virtual College it explores the warning signs of forced marriage and actions to take to help protect potential victims. Takes less than three hours to complete and offers a Virtual College certificate on completion.
See: <http://bit.ly/2i6Amwf>
- **Police funded mobile phone app - Choices: stay safe, be aware**
'Choices' is a mobile phone app which allows children and young people to discover the outcomes of different situations which are impacted by the choices they make. Designed by three girls from Bromsgrove, it was funded for development by West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner as the winning entry in a schools competition for designing an app.
See: <http://bit.ly/2g4j8LC>

- **Impact of child abuse on later life**

New analysis by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) has revealed that more than half of adults who were abused as children experienced domestic abuse in later life. Almost a third of people who were abused as a child reported also being sexually assaulted as an adult. ONS have presented this data very visually with the option to also download the data.

See: <http://bit.ly/2ihARzQ>

- **New national online hate crime hub**

Home Secretary Amber Rudd has announced a new national hub to tackle the emerging threat of online hate crime. It is hoped that the hub, run by police officers for the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) will attempt to ensure better support for victims and help drive up the number of prosecutions.

See: <http://bit.ly/2yBHiZi>

- **Online counselling platform for children and young people**

Kooth is an online counselling and emotional well-being platform that is accessible through mobiles, tablets and desktops and is free at the point of use. It was shared at the 'Children United in Safety Conference' held in October in Telford. The platform was developed by XenZone, a provider of online mental health services for children, young people and adults.

See: <http://bit.ly/2i5k7Q7>

- **Sign up feature for regional Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) campaign updates**

The West Midlands based 'See Me hear me' campaign provides a wealth of information about CSE for young people, parents and carers, professionals and schools. Following the launch of a new-look website people can now sign up to receive the latest campaign news and updates by email. (Link to register is on the bottom right of the website).

See: <http://bit.ly/2zqjxmT>

- **Digital trends amongst 11 to 18 year olds**

Findings of a student's survey presented to this years Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference highlighted the emotional impact social media is having on students wellbeing. Of the key findings - 63% of young people wouldn't mind if social media had never been invented, 71% of students have undergone 'digital detoxes' to take a break from social media.

See: <http://bit.ly/2y9jjQC>

- **Home Office invests in new technology to tackle online child sexual abuse**

The UK government is investing £600,000 in new technology that allows internet companies to identify and remove indecent images of children from websites. This will use digital fingerprints to search for known illegal images and issue removal notices to the websites that host them.

See: <http://bit.ly/2xdwxMo>

If you have Safeguarding news or updates of your own that you would like to be considered for inclusion in the next Safer Snippets, please email:

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