



December 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.

- **Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse - Local Briefing Session**  
Dudley Domestic Abuse Forum is holding a briefing session on Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse on Monday 11th December 2017. The session will be presented by West Midlands Police and last approximately 1 hour. To book use the link below with the password 'safeandsound2'  
See: <http://bit.ly/2yoSdSu>
- **Multi Agency Case File Audit – Early Help Support**  
Dudley Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) has a duty to evaluate multi-agency working through case file audits, often referred to as MACFAs (multi-agency case file audits). The latest MACFA focused on Dudley's approach and response to Early Help support, resulting in a briefing paper which has now been published on the DSCB website to inform how changes can be made to professional practice.  
See: <http://bit.ly/2x9lQpu>
- **Positions of Trust – Change in the law**  
Sports minister Tracey Crouch recently announced that agreement had been reached with the Ministry of Justice and the Home Office to change laws on the position of trust to include sports coaches. This move will bring the sport industry into line with other sectors. A summary is featured in the Guardian newspaper below.  
See: <http://bit.ly/2zL07ZY>
- **Safeguarding unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children**  
In November the Department for Education published a strategy setting out the government's commitments to safeguard and promote the welfare of unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children. This sets out the actions that the Government will take to safeguard and promote the welfare of these children, in recognition of the increasing numbers and specific needs of unaccompanied children in the UK.  
See: <http://bit.ly/2mXriMd>
- **Working Together to Safeguard Children: changes to statutory guidance**  
Until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 the Department for Education are consulting on 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' – the statutory guidance which sets out what is expected of organisations to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. These revisions are being

made largely to reflect the changes introduced through the Children and Social Work Act 2017. NSPCC have pulled out and detailed four of the most significant changes in their briefing below.

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

- **Terrorism safety advice, teaching materials designed by the PSHE Association**  
Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP) are taking their communications campaign for young people into the classroom for the first time. Security experts from CTP have commissioned the creation of an animated film and resources designed to teach young people aged 11 to 16 years old how to react if caught up in a gun or knife terror attack. The film and related teaching materials are available to download via the National Police Chiefs' Council website.  
See: <http://bit.ly/2yZBTvR>
- **Free Local Conference: Staying Safe Online - Dudley's Approach**  
Dudley will be holding its 2nd Online Safety Conference on January 30<sup>th</sup> offering updates on online safety work that has taken place in the borough over the last 12 months. The day is aimed at individuals that work with children and young people in Dudley and is being planned in conjunction with young people who will also be facilitating the day. Bookings are through eventbrite using the password online2017  
See: <http://bit.ly/2ATdN34>
- **Anti-Bullying: resources and training**  
Anti-Bullying week took place in the middle of November, led by the Anti Bullying Alliance. There are lots of useful links and resources on their website in support of this; in particular it's worth noting their free CPD online training 'Developing Effective Anti Bullying Practice' which was funded by the Department for Education to reduce levels of bullying of children.  
See: <http://bit.ly/2vwwtFG>
- **Impact of Cyberbullying on Social Media**  
Again, on the theme of anti-bullying, YoungMinds, the Children's Society and Alex Chalk, MP for Cheltenham recently set up an inquiry into the impact of social media bullying on children and young people's mental health. This was launched to look specifically at what social media companies are doing to tackle bullying and harassment on their platforms, and whether the industry is going far enough to protect children and young people on their sites.  
See: <http://bit.ly/2wLo1zQ>
- **Royal Foundation's Cyberbullying Taskforce campaign launches**  
The Royal Foundation's Cyberbullying Taskforce campaign – Stop, Speak, Support – was recently launched with support from partners, including NSPCC, Google, Facebook, Snapchat and the Diana Awards. The campaign has been designed by young people for young people and aims to help young people stop cyberbullying, know what steps they can take to stop it happening, and provide support to the person being bullied.  
See: <http://bit.ly/2AWfCvn>

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:

**Theresa Welch**

Learning and Development Commissioning Coordinator

Email: [theresa.welch@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:theresa.welch@dudley.gov.uk)