

## Safeguarding briefing for early years – 17 July 2020

Dear colleagues,

Well, I'm sure you will agree that March 2020 seems a very long time ago. This has certainly been one of the most difficult terms we have ever had to navigate and I'm sure we are all feeling the pressure of that. Meanwhile, I continue to hear about the brilliant work EYS settings have done (and continue to do) to adapt their safeguarding duties to keep children safe during this time. We may never know what difference that has made to the lives of many children who may be struggling with a difficult home life or living in a household where abuse is occurring. As with so much of the work we do, we don't always know the impact of our interventions. I've had feedback from many settings though that they have a far better understanding of some of the issues affecting their families and that relationships with parents and children have been strengthened during this time through the welfare checks they have been undertaking.

I hope you have found these briefings useful this term. I realise many of you will be working through the summer - so will we, if it's any consolation!! I will resume the briefings next term, but if there is anything you need to discuss meanwhile, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Take care everyone

Jo

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### Hold the date – Autumn term Safeguarding Forum

I informed you in previous briefings of our intention to hold the first safeguarding forum for EYS settings on 21 October, 7:00pm to 8:30pm at Chelmsford Football Club. We are still holding this date and will make a decision nearer the time whether we will need to hold it online instead of at the venue or whether to defer it to the spring term. I will keep you posted on this.

### Child Protection file transfer to school or a new setting

Settings should already be sharing information with a child's next setting as part of transition planning. This is to ensure the next setting is aware of vulnerable children in advance and are able to put appropriate support in place for when they start. It is also part of safeguarding arrangements to ensure settings are aware of any previous child protection

concerns. Please ensure that any child protection records 'follow the child' if and when they move. Further information on file transfer is on the [Essex Early Years website](#).

## Essex Child and Family Well-being Service (ECFWS)

The latest ECFWS bulletin is available here:



2020-M07-D14  
ECFWS Weekly bulleti

The Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service (ECFWS) is also available to support settings with vulnerable children. They will continue to contact settings over this period to discuss vulnerable children (those with and without social workers) and will form part of the safeguarding arrangements for them.

### Domestic abuse

The new Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) [SET Domestic Abuse Strategy](#) is now available. The five outcomes within the new strategy are:

1. Children & young people can recognise and form healthy relationships
2. People experiencing and at risk of experiencing domestic abuse are supported to be and feel safe
3. Everyone can rebuild their lives and live free from domestic abuse
4. Supporting and disrupting perpetrators to change their behaviour and break the cycle of domestic abuse
5. Communities, professionals and employers are able to recognise domestic abuse at the earliest opportunity and have the confidence to take action

SETDAB have launched a free Drug and Alcohol [Basic Awareness E-learning package](#) which can be accessed on the ESCA Academy partnership e-learning platform.

Other e-learning courses:

- [Understanding Domestic Violence: Levels 1 & 2 Complicated](#)
- [Matters: Links Between Experiences of Domestic & Sexual Violence, Problematic Substance Use & Mental Ill-health](#)

AVAs e-learning courses are £15 per course. Please contact [training@avaproject.org.uk](mailto:training@avaproject.org.uk) for more information.

Three Hour Interactive Training Sessions:

- [27th July](#), [18th](#) & [27th August](#) - Trauma Informed Practice in The Context of Covid-19

- [16th](#), [30th July](#), [12th](#) & [26th August](#) - Working with Domestic Violence During Covid-19
- [28th July](#), [3rd](#) & [25th August](#) - Managing The Secondary Effects of Trauma
- [29th July](#) & [16th September](#) - Complicated Matters: Links Between Experiences of Domestic & Sexual Violence, Substance Use and Mental Distress
- [10th September](#) - Children Under 10 and Domestic Violence

## **The Family Innovation Fund-Xtra**

The [Family Innovation Fund-Xtra](#) offers a range of early support services. These are available to help children, young people and families during the pandemic. The early support services include children's mental health, healthy relationships and coping with change. The services are available to children and young people aged between 0 and 19 years (up to 25 years for young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities) and their families. They are aimed at those who are not already receiving specialist or statutory support.

## **NSPCC**

The NSPCC has produced a [briefing](#) pulling together key guidance for providers of early years services on keeping children safe. It answers frequently asked questions including how childcare settings can support and protect children who are not attending.

The NSPCC has updated its [website](#) with some recent serious case reviews.