



Safeguarding in Early Years Newsletter - Spring 2020



Welcome to the first Safeguarding in Early Years Newsletter of 2020. Wigan Safeguarding Partnership (WSP) have been busy developing the training and improving the support which we can offer to your setting. We hope you find this newsletter useful and we welcome any feedback which you can send us via email WSCB@wigan.gov.uk

Bereavement Strategy

WSP recognise that within our community there will almost always be some recently bereaved children and adults who are struggling with their own situation – or sometimes the entire school or nursery community is impacted by the death of a member of staff or a child. To address this need, WSP have developed a Bereavement Policy for education settings, which offers guidance and robust procedures for whenever there is a death in the school or nursery community (not just a child). This policy will be shared in the coming weeks and WSP recommend that your setting considers adopting this.

Further information on the impact of bereavement can be found [here](#).



Military Families

Military life can have many benefits, military-connected families also experience unique challenges such as being separated from loved ones and having to relocate frequently. This can create stress and anxiety for parents, carers and children. Families associated with the military experience higher anxiety and stress compared with the general population of the UK. It may be of benefit to explore how you identify military families in your setting and what support you are able to offer. This may be through the offer an Early Help or by directing them organisations such as Healthier Heroes. This is based in Wigan and offers FREE help and support for military families, this includes a use of veterans retreat, counselling, peer mentoring and so much more. They can be contacted on 01942 821293.



Help us to improve the support we can offer to you— Learning Needs Analysis



Wigan Safeguarding Partnership needs your feedback to help improve future training.

We want to know how we can improve your knowledge of safeguarding; what training you have attended; and what learning styles you prefer. This information will help us to ensure that Wigan organisations have access to good quality training which addresses learning needs.

Look out for the email which has been sent to all Wigan education and early years settings requesting that the safeguarding lead complete the short questionnaire via the [Survey Monkey link](#). We would be very grateful if you could complete this.

Operation Encompass



Operation Encompass is a police lead programme where Greater Manchester Police will notify the school or nursery if there have been any incidents of domestic abuse at a child's home address. This allows staff to provide additional support to children and their families.

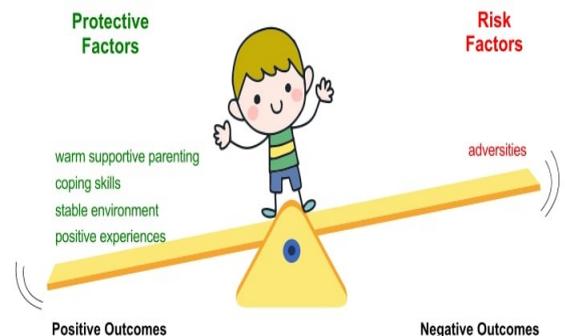
If you would like your setting to be involved then please email Rebecca Weston for further information Rebecca.Weston@wigan.gov.uk

Designated Officer (Allegations) Name change

Formally known as the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) the Wigan LADO will now be referred to as the **Designated Officer (Allegations)**. This is to reflect the title change made in Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018). Diane Kitcher remains the Designated Officer (Allegations) in Wigan and her role has not changed. WSP have recently developed a LADO guidance document to assist you in dealing with allegations regarding an employee or volunteer. We hope you find this updated guidance useful. It can be found [here](#).

Trauma Informed Practice

Some of you may have heard about Trauma Informed Practice, that can help build resilience in children who may have experienced trauma. Over the coming months this will be increasingly referred to in the training which is delivered by WSP. If you would like further information about the impact of trauma you may wish to watch this [video](#). The NSPCC has also published new content regarding the impact of trauma on brain development. This can be accessed [here](#).



Early Years Safeguarding Audit

This is just a reminder to return the Early Years Safeguarding Audit. You can return completed forms to Rebecca.Weston@wigan.gov.uk. The audit will help your setting ensure that your safeguarding practice is of a high standard and identify any areas which require improvement. If you require any support completing the audit then please contact Rebecca.

Signs of Safety



As part of delivering Deal 2030 and giving children the 'best start in life', a new practice framework is coming to Wigan.

Signs of Safety is for all services that work with children and young people, including nurseries, social care, early help, schools, and health provisions.

You will begin to see changes in language and this will mean that there will be changes to Early Help, Child in Need and Child Protection reports and plans.

For further information, please visit our Signs of Safety webpage [here](#). Or contact Rebecca.Weston@wigan.gov.uk