

Wigan Safeguarding Partnership 7 Minute Briefing- A Good Pastoral Support Example

Background

A Key Stage 3 setting provided extensive pastoral support to a pupil identified as benefiting from support in relation to their Mental Health and Wellbeing. A combination of bespoke interventions and resources saw that A Child received 1:1 support and their needs were understood, and their voice was heard. Group sessions promoted improved relationships with professionals and peers, while external extracurricular support notable improvements in wellbeing.

What was the Learning?

- Thea academic setting presents additional challenges for some children, recognising the benefits of external support allows needs to be met.
- Capturing the lived experience, promoted continued efforts to engage A Child and contextualised understanding of their behaviours.
- School ethos designed to view every child as an individual allowed staff cohesion around a bespoke plan. Annual training, promotion of staff skills and abilities and working relationships with the DSL, allows staff confidence in safeguarding children.
- Staff are promoted to access relevant external agencies for support, promoting a wholistic approach to supporting individuals.
- A personalises approach to working with young people, underpins statutory duties, promoting positive experiences.

Why is this important to Wigan?

The Deal for Children and Young People promotes the recognition of unique strengths and values of young people and centres around doing what is best for them. The Deal allows practitioners to work differently, promotes effective interventions and outcomes for children and young people. The Deal promotes integrated working with partners, promoting interventions which wrap around the needs of the child.

What can we consider?

- How do you capture the lived experiences of children you work with -how can you demonstrate hearing the child's voice?
- Are you aware of the designates Safeguarding Lead for your setting and how to access support?
- What are you able to do to develop critical analysis and exploration skills, to maintain professional curiosity within your role?
- What is your understanding of agencies who can support with the mental health and wellbeing of children accessing your service?
- Are young people provided with a safe space to voice their concerns and access support in your setting?

What can you do right now?

- Speak openly and honestly with young people about your concerns.

- Be familiar with readily available support
- Practice active listening
- look at what young people in the borough have to say about mental health and wellbeing support available to them

Want to learn more?

Information about The Deal for Children and Young People

Information about professional curiosity and challenge

Information about dealing with disclosures