Safeguarding Symposium for Early years and Out of School providers of childcare and early education
What is a symposium?

Why are we all here?
Symposium: a meeting or conference for the discussion of some subject, especially a meeting at which several speakers talk on or discuss a topic before an audience.

Dictionary states: Sym is a version of Syn.

Syn = “together” (Greek)

Symphony – instrumental composition of three or more movements. Symphony orchestra – anything characterised by a harmonious combination of elements.
The Kirklees Picture

- One of the largest local authority districts in England/Wales – 11th out of 348
- 2017 – 437,000 residents
- 0-4 years 27,900, 5-15 years 61,600. A total of 89,500 children under 15 years, about 20.5% or 1/5 of the community.
- Kirklees has higher than national number of households with dependent children
Universal Services

These services are available and used by all families and children:
GP, hospital, midwives, health visitors, early years, places, early years funding, school, dentist, police, fire, opticians, benefit advice, career advice, further education,
But .......

Sometimes children and families need a little bit more support – could be short or longer term
Early Years Safeguarding Event
28.2.19
Becki Hinchliffe
Learning and Development Officer and SCR Co-ordinator
How do we work together?

- Accessing multi-agency training and e-learning
- Using West Yorkshire Procedures to guide your practice and policies
- Notifying us of Child Deaths
- Involvement in Serious Case Reviews (Safeguarding Practice Reviews)
- Escalating concerns
- Information on website (forms for Early Support, Child Protection Conferences...)
Levels of Need

- Open the envelope on your table
- As a group decide which level the different safeguarding terms and information fit
- If you are not sure...guess!
Level 1

- Universal Services
- No additional needs
- No referral required
- Anyone can access
- Single Agency
Level 2

- Early Support
- Additional Needs and Vulnerabilities
- Parental Consent required for referral / assessment
- Anyone can complete assessment
- Anyone can be the lead
- Lead Professional
- Team Around the Family (TAF)
- TAF Meetings
- Multi-Agency
Level 3

- Child in Need
- Complex and Multiple Difficulties
- Parental Consent required for referral / assessment
- Duty and Advice
- Social Worker
- Single Assessment
- Sec.17 Assessment
- Child in Need Meetings / Plan
- Multi-Agency
Level 4

- Child Protection
- Significant Harm
- Parental consent not required for referral / assessment
- Duty and Advice
- Strategy Discussion
- Social Worker
- Single Assessment
- Sec.47 Assessment
- Child Protection Conference
- Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO)
- Core Group
- Child Protection Plan
- Multi-Agency
In the beginning there was CAF...
Information Sharing and Consent – Principles of Good Practice

- Early conversations
- Openness and honesty
- Gaining consent to be the norm….except!
- Lack of consent may mean that Social Care cannot take any further action
- Good record keeping detailing decisions made
- Escalation policy
What does the guidance and law say?

all practitioners should not assume that someone else will pass on information that they think may be critical to keeping a child safe.

If a practitioner has concerns about a child’s welfare and considers that they may be a child in need or that the child has suffered or is likely to suffer significant harm,

then they should share the information with local authority children’s social care and/or the police.

Working Together 2018 and West Yorkshire Procedures
Myth busting!

- The GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 are barriers to sharing information
  NO
- Consent is always needed to share personal information
  NO
- Personal information collected by one organisation cannot be disclosed to another organisation
  NO!
Keep in Touch!

- www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.com
- KSCB Unit – 01484 225161
- @KirkleesLSCB

- CASPAR – NSPCC safeguarding news bulletin

Thank you
Early Support
What is Early Support?

Providing early support is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later. Early support means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child’s life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years. Early support can also prevent further problems arising; for example, if it is provided as part of a support plan where a child has returned home to their family from care, or in families where there are emerging parental mental health issues or drug and alcohol misuse.

*(Working together to safeguard children)*
Kirklees Early Support Partnership Vision
(Taken from the Early Support Strategy)

- Flexible services to meet children and families needs.
- Practitioners develop a shared language and approach to working with families and young people.
- Ensure the right conversations take place at the right time with the right people.
- Work with families to identify their own solutions, building on their strengths.
Early Support Services delivered by the local authority

- Family Support
- Parenting/Group Work
- Family Group Conferencing
- Children Centre Core Offer
- Community Hubs
- Multi Systemic Therapy (MST)
- Family Mental Health Service
KSCB website

• Early Support Referral Form
• Early Support Process Flow Charts
• Early Support Assessment Form – guidance to follow
• Early Support Strategy

• Further information available on the stall with copies of the above to take away
• Referral to Family Support starts with a telephone conversation to 01484 456823 and speaking to a Team Leader, Parenting Team Leader or Casework Consultant (Community Hubs)
Family Support— is this family suitable?

Does the family have child(ren) aged 0-19 (25 if SEND)

Yes

No

This family is not eligible for Family Support

If you are part of a Community Hub have you discussed the family with your Early Support Consultant?

Yes

No

Please contact Early Support to find out who your local consultant is on: 01484 456823

Could the needs of this family be met by a parenting group?

Yes

No

Please contact Early Support and ask to speak to the parenting team leader on: 01484 456823

Has support from the consultant been offered and more than this is needed?

Is the existing TAF not being effective?

Does the case need a full Early Support assessment (or redo analysis to understand what's going on?)

Are there multiple issues across a number of family members?

Is there a risk of escalation?

Is there resistance or lack of engagement or concerns about disguised compliance?

Is there a need for more intensive levels of intervention?

No

Yes

Please contact Early Support to speak to your local Early Support consultant on:

01484 456823

Family Support may be suitable for this family. Please contact your local Early Support Team Leader on 01484 456823 to discuss making a referral. [If you don’t know who your local contact is please ask for Early Support and our BSOs will help you.] Referral forms can be accessed through the KSCB website.
Parenting groups – is this family suitable?

Does the family have child(ren) aged pre-birth-19 (25 if SEND)?

Yes

If you are part of a Community Hub have you discussed the family with your Early Support Consultant?

Yes

The parenting programmes we offer are:
- **Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities** - reduces family violence and conflict at home, school and in the community
- **Steps** – raises confidence, self-efficacy and aspirations in the whole family
- **Speakeasy** - gives parents the confidence and skills to discuss sex and relationships including CSE and grooming with their children/young people (accredited)
- **SEN Family Links** - positive behaviour strategies for parents with children who have additional needs
- **Liberty** - for victims of domestic abuse and their families who have/are experiencing domestic abuse
- **Safer Healthier Homes** - to encourage the parent/carer to take responsibility for their home conditions including the safety, health and hygiene of themselves and their children

Do you think that one of these programmes can meet the family’s needs?

Yes

A parenting programme may be suitable for this family. Please contact Early Support on 01484 456823 and ask to speak to the Parenting Team Leader to discuss making a parenting referral.

No

This family is not eligible for our parenting groups

No

Please contact Early Support to find out who your local consultant is on: 01484 456823

No

Please contact Early Support to speak to your local Early Support Team Leader to discuss alternative support for the family on: 01484 456823
Children’s Services
Duty and Advice Team

Theresa Racz TM
Claire Felvus TL
Our Team

- 3 Social Work Team Managers
- 11 experienced Social Workers
- 1 Early Support Team Leader
- 3 Early Support Case Work Consultants
- Business Support Officer Team
- 2 Domestic Abuse Consultants
- 2 housing Social Workers
Our Team

- Police from child safeguarding and adults safeguarding
- MARAC co-ordinator (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference)
- PDVG (Pennine Domestic Violence Group)
- Health representatives
- Education representatives
Our role

- Duty and Advice is the front door for children’s services
- New concerns for children are shared by members of the public and/or professionals
- If there are potential safeguarding concerns information is created onto a Contact record and assigned to a social worker
- If there are no safeguarding concerns the Contact is assigned to an Early Support Case Work Consultant
- At contact stage enquires are completed
- Social Worker or Early Support worker will make a recommendation based on the findings
Outcomes

- Multi-agency strategy meeting to consider significant harm
- Child and Family Assessment – S17 Children Act 1989
- Domestic abuse consultant intervention – telephone consultation or direct piece of work
- Housing mediation
- Referral to Early Support Service
- Advice and information
- Signpost to appropriate agencies
- No Further Action (NFA)
Expectations of professionals before contacting D&A

- The process for contacting Duty and Advice is to have a conversation with a social worker and not send emails.
- Practitioners should first seek advice and information from their own agency line manager and agency safeguarding lead if this support is available.
- Prior to making a call to the Duty and Advice team, partners need to gain consent from families to contact Children’s Services, unless to do so would put a child at risk of further harm.
Consent

- Consent must be obtained from the parent or carer prior to contacting Duty & Advice, being clear about the reason they will be calling.
- A Social Worker in Duty and Advice is able to talk to partners about how to gain consent, but is not allowed to share information or offer advice about a family without consent.
- Agency consultation – advised to go back to advise of conversation – letters sent.
Strategy Meetings

- Children’s Social Care must hold a Strategy Discussion whenever there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child has suffered or is likely to suffer Significant Harm.
- This is triggered by a referral where concerns about Significant Harm to the child have been shared/identified.
- The purpose of the Strategy Discussion is to decide whether a Section 47 Enquiry under the Children Act 1989 is required and if so, to develop a plan of action for the Section 47 Enquiry. The Single Assessment is the means by which the Section 47 Enquiry is carried out.
- The strategy meeting involves social care, police health and education within Duty and Advice – for new referrals. Team Manager chairs the meeting.
Early Support – Consultants
Duty & Advice

- Broker support
- Early Support Assessment
- Direct work
- Link with Community Hubs

- Family Support Locality Teams
- Safeguarding
- Duty visit
DATA

- 3 month 2018
- 4,072 Contacts
- 3073 NFA by Social Care (75.4%)
  - Provision of Advice and Guidance.
  - Transferred to relevant area Family Support Team (existing/consideration).
  - Transferred to Domestic Abuse consultant (based within Duty and Advice).
  - Referred or signposted to another organisation/agency.
Case Study – Early Support

- Information shared by the Police, relating to a 7 year old and 3 siblings around poor home conditions observed after Police attended when mum had been assaulted by a friend. The case was already open to a FSW alongside being support through a TAF (team around the family).

- Mum was spoken to by Duty and Advice, identified existing Family Social Worker should continue with home conditions and sleeping arrangements to be followed up and included within the TAF. Further support was undertaken around this, alongside managing behaviour, routines and boundaries with improvements made and case closed three months later, no further concerns shared with Duty and Advice.
Consultation from school about a 15 year boy using homophonic language towards Head teacher, advice provided.

Police notification, verbal argument and father caused damage to the property, parents now separated. School contacted and have no concerns, school offered to provide support if required.

Serious DV assault, mother sustained bruising. Children reside with maternal Grandparents under Special Guardian Order as a consequence of long standing Domestic Violence, all contact with mother is supervised by Maternal Grandmother.
Thank You
Key learning

• Some families are not accessing the universal services that could support them.
• There are lots of partner agencies that can offer support
• Duty and advice deal with the most vulnerable children
Introducing:

Operation Encompass

Early Years Notification Protocol
Remember – you are part of the orchestra!
Links to websites and documents:

• Thriving Kirklees – [https://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk/](https://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk/) Single Point of Contact (SPOC) 0300 304 5555
• Welcome Centre [https://www.thewelcomecentre.org/](https://www.thewelcomecentre.org/)
• CGL (drug and alcohol service) [https://www.changegrowlive.org/](https://www.changegrowlive.org/)
• PACE http://paceuk.info/?doing_wp_cron=1551952709.0491631031036376953125
• Pennine Domestic Violence Group (PDVG) [https://pdvg.org/](https://pdvg.org/)
• Home Start - [https://homestart-kirklees.org.uk/](https://homestart-kirklees.org.uk/)
Continued:

• NSPCC, CASPAR newsletter - https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/newsletter/caspar/

• Information Sharing advice for safeguarding practitioners - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice

• Operation Encompass National website - https://www.operationencompass.org/
Kirklees Safeguarding Children Board

• KSCB  - [http://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/](http://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/)
• Duty and Advice - [http://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/duty-and-advice.html](http://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/duty-and-advice.html)
• Early Support - [http://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/early-support-assessment.html](http://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/early-support-assessment.html)
• Escalation procedures - [http://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/EscalationProcess.html](http://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/EscalationProcess.html)