

KEEPING YOU SAFE

KINGSTON AND RICHMOND SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (KRSCP)
ANNUAL REPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Kingston and Richmond
Safeguarding Children
Partnership

This report is provided to you by the Waldegrave Year 12 team: Elina Daferera, Aarushi Mudliar, Aiyana K. Oberai, Lauren Pearce and Ruby Skinner.

What is the Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership?

The Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership (KRSCP) is an organisation which makes sure everyone who works with children, (e.g. doctors, teachers, sports coaches, religious groups and so on), are keeping them safe and promoting their wellbeing. They also work with all agencies that work with children, and make sure that children are being kept safe. Where weaknesses are identified, KRSCP recommends changes to make things better for children and young people. If a child is seriously harmed or dies, the KRSCP investigates through writing a detailed Child Safeguarding Practice Review. Every Local Authority or area must have a Safeguarding Children Partnership led by the Local Authority, Police and Health. In our area of Kingston and Richmond we also include Education because we believe schools play a very important role in keeping children safe and noticing when there are concerns about safety.

Meet the team:

The three safeguarding partners are the Local Authority, The Police and Health. They are represented in Kingston & Richmond by:



Ian Dodds

Director of Children Services for
Achieving for Children



Andrew Wadey

Detective Superintendent of the
MET Police



Fergus Keegan

Director of Quality NHS



achieving
for children



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KINGSTON
UPON THAMES



PRIORITIES 2020-2022!

MENTAL HEALTH

The Coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on children and young people. Loss of exams, anxiety about the virus, lockdown, bereavement and school closures have contributed to a rise in mental health referrals to CAMHS and the Emotional Health Service.



In Kingston & Richmond, Education is considered a fourth partner. Last year Education was represented at strategic leadership level by two Headteachers, Sophie Cavanagh from The Kingston Academy and Sophie McGeoch from Meadlands Primary School

These four strategic Leaders direct the work of the team:



Elisabeth Major

Elisabeth is the Partnership Manager. She is a Social Worker and knows a lot about keeping young people safe. She meets with the safeguarding partners every 2 weeks and manages the team to deliver the priorities.

CONTEXTUAL SAFEGUARDING

We recognise that places outside the family home can pose threats to children and introduce risks of grooming into criminal and/or sexual exploitation. We work hard with everyone who works with children and train them to notice signs, such as missing education or receiving gifts/money and have professional curiosity.



PARENTAL VULNERABILITIES

Over 5000 of our children are affected by domestic abuse. Adult mental health affects over 10,000 of our families in Kingston and Richmond, while drug and alcohol dependency affects nearly 3000 adults and contributes to safeguarding risks and neglect in the boroughs.



DIVERSITY

Diversity is the Golden Thread running through all our local work. We have asked schools to be better at recognising racism by working with their non white students to understand what racism looks like for them in their daily lived experience. We want all incidents of racism to be recorded and reported to AfC. We ask schools to call it out and stamp it out.

Here are the Kingston and Richmond demographics

Did you know that there are 80,756 children and young people under the age of 18 in Kingston and Richmond. Sadly last year there were 20 deaths.



WHAT HAS GONE WELL?

1. When the pandemic arrived, face to face work between families and professionals who support them more or less stopped. We created a Covid group of multi agency professionals who met fortnightly to scrutinise arising needs and vulnerabilities. This led to families being directed to voluntary aid by schools and other agencies and a public communications campaign to keep the child in sight in the community. Once things started to return to normal, the group continued with less frequent meetings, keeping a view on Covid and the effect it had on the provision of services to families in need.



Tracey Welding

Tracey is the Deputy Partnership Manager. She assists Elisabeth in managing the team and also works with the faith and voluntary sector to help keep children and young people safe.



publicdomainvectors.org



2. Building on the strength of our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) Forums, the voice of education has been strong. Education is our fourth statutory partner and with an initiative from Sophie McGeoch, Headteacher Representative for Primary Schools, we won a DfE grant in Spring 2021 of £37,000 and this is currently being implemented to help emotionally support



Sarah Bennett

Sarah is the Child Death Co-ordinator. When a child sadly dies, Sarah brings together everyone involved to learn from what happened

WHAT HAS GONE WELL?

the DSLs in all of our schools and nurseries. Our school network led to a swift response to the Everyone's Invited website in March 2021. We were able to provide support to all schools, GPs and health providers before schools broke up and an emergency DSL Forum in April, which was attended by 95 schools.



Daksha Mistry

Daksha is the Learning and Development Manager. She organises all the training we offer

3. We have found new ways to share learning during lockdown such as webcasts from arising issues such as Think Family, Early Help Assessments, Anti-Racist practice and Vicarious Trauma. We have held virtual Conferences, for the re-launch of the Early Help Assessment in November 2020 and the Journey to Exclusion Conference in January 2021.



Jay Wylie-Board

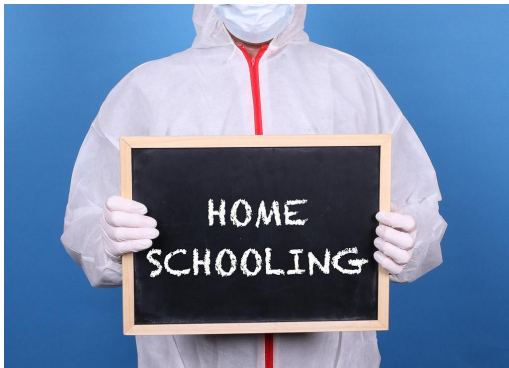
Jay is our Business Support Officer. He administers to all the training courses and is our technical support go-to person



4. We see good numbers of delegates accessing our training – Last year 1722 attended our face to face training and 3044 used our online learning.

WHAT WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT?

There has been a rise in the number of children being home educated. We will be seeking additional assurance that the increasing numbers of children who are Electively Home Educated are safe, that any risks to them are being effectively identified and responded to.

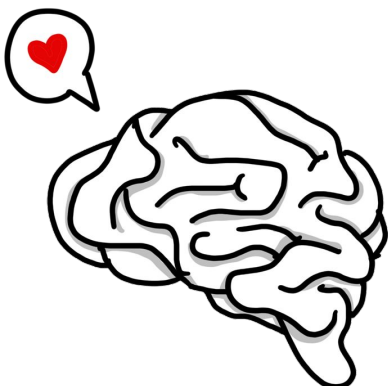


Lucy MacArthur

Lucy is the Education Co-ordinator. She offers safeguarding advice and support to schools.

We can see that children from non white background continue to be more likely to be involved with Child Protection Services, MARAC, (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference), to be Looked After, involved with Youth Resilience and/or Offending Services, or face fixed term school exclusions.

One of our key areas of focus is emotional wellbeing and mental health. Referrals to CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) have risen in both boroughs over the year. In Kingston referrals to the SPA (Single Point of Access) were 20% for child mental health concerns this year, and it is the most common factor identified in the single assessment. The figure was 22% for Richmond. We can see a year on year rise for referrals to CAMHS for both boroughs, 2,174 referrals for Kingston children and 2,294 for Richmond children this year



There has been a lot of publicity about the Everyone's Invited website and the disclosures on it about sexual harassment, assault and abuse. We are concerned by the scale of this issue nationally and this is also the local picture. It requires a cultural shift and all agencies, including schools have a part to play in developing attitudes of respect so that no inappropriate behaviours are normalised and young people, especially girls, feel empowered to report it. Parents have a role to play too, as we have seen unsupervised house parties and liberal views about drugs and alcohol contribute to the problem of harmful sexual behaviour.

WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN?



- Our priorities will continue into next year's work, but we are always ready to respond to emerging issues, such as the rise we have seen in eating disorders during the pandemic, radicalisation of young people, trafficking and modern slavery

- Our work on Harmful Sexual Behaviour will continue to be incredibly important and we will ask everyone that works with children of all ages, including pre-school children, to think about creating a culture of respect amongst young people and engage families to minimise risks in future.



Living in relatively affluent boroughs gives us added layers of complicating factors, such as affluent neglect, which is sometimes hard to recognise but can lead to serious safeguarding risks, such as substance misuse and other risky behaviour.



WHAT WE AT KRSCP ARE DOING :

- We recognise that moving from children services to adult services can be a very challenging time for young people, as are transitions through school phases so we are working with adult services to try to smooth the pathway with some continuity of care.
- We will continue to support and challenge the contextual safeguarding work that has begun locally where places and spaces are recognised outside of the child's home that can present additional risks to issues such as gang involvement and sexual exploitation.

Need help? Immediate support is always available:

1 Anything worrying you?



Call childline :
Online, or on the phone anytime :
<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

2 Sexual Health

TALK TO US

OFF THE RECORD

Off the Record - Twickenham -
Counselling, Walk-in info, Sexual
health clinic (otrtwickenham.com)

Mental Health Help :

3 Kooth online
Counselling : <https://www.kooth.com>



4 NHS Urgent mental health
crisis line : 0800 028 8000
Available 24/7



5 shout
for support in a crisis
Text 85258
or visit
Website at www.giveusashout.org



Having thoughts of suicide?



PREVENTION
OF YOUNG SUICIDE

HOPELINEUK
0800 068 41 41

HopelineUK:
0800 068 4141
(open 10am-10pm
weekdays,
2pm-10pm
weekends)

Call Samaritans: 116 123




Someone you love has died?

1. Kingston bereavement
service:it
<https://sayinggoodbye.org.uk>

2. Email Cruse
Bereavement
services:



hopeagain@cruse.org.uk

3. Winston's Wish 
Helpline on 08088 020 021
(Monday - Friday, 9am -
5pm).
You can also email: ask
@winstonswish.org

Are you worried about your or your
friend's safety? Speak to a member of
staff at your school. They will know what
to do. If there is immediate danger call the
Police on 999. You can also telephone
Children's Social Care for advice and to
make a referral on 0208 547 5008

Are you experiencing disordered
eating?

<https://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk/>

Telephone helplineYouthline: 0808 801 0711
from 9am-8pm during the week, and
4pm-8pm on weekends and bank
holidaysouthline email support is open to
anyone under 18:
fyp@beateatingdisorders.org.uk