

## Safeguarding children and young people: Early Years Summer 2020

**Welcome** to the new look for the Early Years Round Up. We have changed the design to be in keeping with our other newsletters, all of which can be seen on our website [here](#).

The Autumn term forum will be a single online event on 18 November 7pm – 9pm. Dates for the rest of the academic year are below and (coronavirus permitting) there are two dates per term, one for each borough. Venues for next year will be confirmed nearer the time.

### Autumn 2020

#### Kingston:

Wednesday 11  
November  
7-9pm

#### Richmond:

Wednesday 18  
November  
7-9pm

Venues TBC

### Spring 2021

#### Kingston:

Wednesday  
3 March  
7-9pm

#### Richmond:

Wednesday 10  
March  
7-9pm

Venues TBC

### Summer 2021

#### Kingston:

Wednesday  
9 June  
7-9pm

#### Richmond:

Wednesday 16  
June  
7-9pm

Venues TBC

### Coronavirus research needs young families

The University of Southampton is carrying out a study on Early Years and the coronavirus pandemic effects on young families to inform service provision. Please share this with your families <http://www.cospyce.org/survey>

### Thank you from the Safeguarding children partnership team

We are acutely aware of the challenges you have had to face this term – it has been enormously difficult – and many of you have worked throughout your holidays to ensure the best care for the children in your care. You have shown remarkable resilience in dealing with the crisis. From the outset we have been nothing but impressed by the creative ways you have kept in touch with the children, maintained good spirits, been kind to one another and shared ideas to improve safeguarding practice in the two boroughs during lockdown. Thank you for your commitment. It has been tough. I send you all a virtual hug.

## Early Years Safeguarding forum: Adverse Childhood Experiences

Thank you to everyone who attended the online forum on 10 June to discuss the long term health implications of Adverse Childhood Experiences. Mental Health clinician Gary Baron (pictured bottom left) explained how one adult in a child's life is all it takes to develop the child's skills to become resilient. Helping a child to become resilient means they will be able to cope with toxic stress and manage it to a level where it will not cause long term damage.

Gary showed us how building trusted relationships with young children and preparing them for the transition to primary school will help them to learn how to reflect on their feelings and express their emotions and needs. This self sufficiency is a life long skill that will enable children and young people to cope with their early experiences at manageable levels, therefore avoiding them becoming future ACEs that affect long term outcomes.



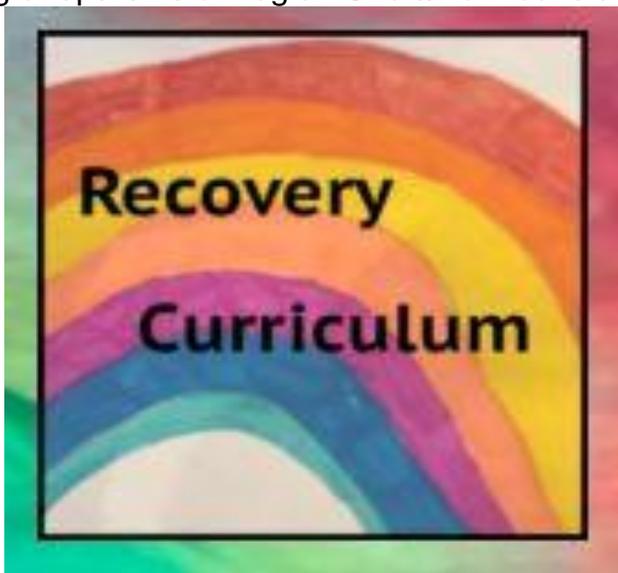
## Recovery curriculum

Many children and parents/carers are highly anxious about returning to nursery. It has been drummed into them to socially distance – when a child is not allowed to see their grandparents or hug an Uncle/Aunt but stand 2 metres away whilst outdoors, it will be hard for them to adjust and not fear the nearness of other people, especially having absorbed the anxiety of the nation as day after day the death figures are read out on the news. For some children, being in lockdown did not feel safe. There is likely to be a rise in referrals to the SPA post lockdown...and we must be mindful that children we think of as “not at risk” may have experienced harm during lockdown as families faced new triggers such as bereavement and job loss adding new levels of stress in to their home environment. There are so many wide ranging factors that will affect a child's return to nursery and childcare.

Barry Carpenter, CBE, Professor of

Mental Health in Education, Oxford Brookes University writes about a Recovery Curriculum which is a resource you might find useful to read because it will help you develop a more holistic approach to the recovery of a child and the need for compassion and relationship building. You can read more here:

<https://www.evidenceforlearning.net/recoverycurriculum/>



## Domestic abuse escalates during lockdown

Domestic abuse is an event or pattern of events of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between people aged 16 or over who are (or have been) intimate partners or family members. During lockdown, victims of abuse have nowhere to go to get away from their abuser, who is always at home.

*“He doesn't like it when I call family or friends, it makes him worse.”*

## Be professionally curious

A child witnessing domestic abuse is a form of child abuse and it has long term consequences. If you have concerns about a family, questions that could be asked include: 'Are there any particular obstacles you are facing that are stopping you from accessing support? Is there anyone in particular who is stopping you from accessing support?' 'Are there any concerns in your household, is there any particular risk to you or your child/ren?'



We are expecting a surge in disclosures about domestic abuse as children return to school.

Women's Aid has published the findings from a survey carried out in April 2020 into the experiences of women experiencing domestic abuse. It revealed:

- 67.4% of survivors currently experiencing abuse reported that it had got worse since Covid-19.
- 76.1% reported they are having to spend more time with their abuser
- 71.7% of survivors who were experiencing current abuse said their abuser has more control over their life since Covid-19.

If you want to attend our bitesize online Domestic Abuse learning event on , email: [lucy.macarthur@kingrichlscb.org.uk](mailto:lucy.macarthur@kingrichlscb.org.uk):



## Support for victims of domestic abuse

**Richmond borough – Refuge** (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) and Outreach Service) **020**

**8943 8188** Monday – Friday 9am-5pm

**Kingston Borough - Domestic Abuse Hub**, support and advocacy for survivors of DA: **0208 5476046** (Mon – Fri 9.30 – 5pm)

**Concerned about a child**, call the SPA: **0208 547 5008** (Mon – Fri 8am-5pm)

## Black Lives Matter statement from the Safeguarding Partners

As Safeguarding Strategic Leaders in Kingston and Richmond, we are standing in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter campaign. We are appalled by the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and recognise the anger and grief it has caused.

Mr Floyd's tragic death highlights the continued need for us all to fight discrimination and hate, and the need for us all to address inequality as practitioners working across our boroughs. We will work to bring justice for children and young people and their families, in providing services to our local population, and promoting a fair culture in our workplaces. We will not tolerate racism or any form of hate crime and we cannot turn a blind eye to it. We will continue to expect anti-discriminatory practice, and Learning and Development for all our volunteers and staff around issues of ethnicity and diversity. We would also like to respond to the report published by Public Health England highlighting the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on particular groups of the population, including Black, Asian and other communities. It confirms that the impact of COVID-19 has replicated existing health inequalities and, in some cases, has increased them. We are extremely concerned about these health inequalities and will continue to work with our communities and partners to support those at risk and do what we can to change this unacceptable position.

Ian Thomas CBE Chair KRSCP  
Fergus Keegan SW London CCG  
Ian Dodds Achieving for Children  
Det Sup Owain Richards, Met Police, SW London BC



### Cruse Richmond Bereavement Support Service

Cruse can offer regular support to families and children through bereavement. All volunteers undergo an extensive training programme and are experienced in providing emotional support to the bereaved - whenever and however that bereavement occurred. Leave a voicemail on **07495 777401** or email [referrals@cruserichmonduponthames.org.uk](mailto:referrals@cruserichmonduponthames.org.uk). They will respond within 24 hours (not including weekends) to offer initial support and explain how to get regular telephone or Zoom support sessions with one of their volunteers.



### Kingston Bereavement Service

Please contact us on  
020 8547 1552  
or email

[info@kingstonbereavementservice.org.uk](mailto:info@kingstonbereavementservice.org.uk)

For immediate help, you can call the CRUSE National Helpline on 0808 808 1677



## Wellbeing during Covid-19 crisis

Youth Out Loud want to know about young people's experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic. They will use the answers given to help organisations like the NHS and the Council to better support young people. Please support and encourage your young people to complete this important survey. Survey link: <https://bit.ly/YOLSurvey> or visit the Youth Out Loud website [www.yolweb.info](http://www.yolweb.info) and click on the survey pin to take part.



## Know a young person who may want to get involved?

Do you know a young person aged 13-17 who may be interested in becoming a member of the dynamic and passionate Youth Out Loud community? Please encourage them to visit the YOL! website and click on the 'Get involved' tab to find out more. They can also follow YOL on Instagram @youth\_outloud or on Twitter @Youth\_OutLoud.

## Your Education Reps need you

In the Spring Term Round Up I introduced you to your Education Reps Sophie Cavanagh (left of the picture) and Sophie McGeoch (right of picture). They sit on the Safeguarding Children Partnership's Strategic Leadership Group and would like to hear from you about the issues you face in your practice to help them set our strategic direction. Please get in touch with me ([lucy.macarthur@kingrichlscb.org.uk](mailto:lucy.macarthur@kingrichlscb.org.uk)) with your thoughts and I will pass them on to your education reps. Thank you!



Kingston and Richmond  
Safeguarding Children Partnership



## Children in Care Council

Connecting children who are looked after and supporting them through peer networks, the Children In Care Council is always welcomes new people to join.  
E: [chris.mcphee@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:chris.mcphee@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

## And finally...

We launched a campaign in mid May to encourage residents across our boroughs to come forward if they have concerns about a child, especially important with the delay in getting primary schools back. The campaign is being promoted across social media and in supermarkets and pharmacies highlighting the fact that children are not seeing the trusted adults they normally see and that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

