



Safeguarding children and young people: May 2020

Message from the KRSCP Chair, Ian Thomas

Welcome volunteers and practitioners from across all sectors in Kingston and Richmond—please distribute your May Partnership newsletter widely. This month has seen some softening of our lockdown but we all recognise we are in this for the long haul and that we must focus on the most vulnerable children and adults in our boroughs. Thank you for your consistent great work and persistence in keeping children and young people safe. Read on for a reminder of the vulnerabilities around online safety, neglect, and **Child Safety Week** themes for June. Find out more [here](#) about our Partnership Campaign to raise public awareness of how they can help protect children from harm by sharing any concerns they may have.



Online Safety

Even at the best of times, it can be challenging for parents, carers and other adults to keep children safe when they are online. Although the lockdown restrictions may add to those difficulties, the core messages remain the same. We all need to know the risks and signs of inappropriate content and online abuse, and we all have a role to play in helping children and young people to understand the dangers of online grooming, exploitation and abuse. There are the settings that a parent can change on each of their child's devices, in effect they control what, who and how much the child does online. The NSPCC runs a free advice line for parents with questions about keeping children safer online. It's on 0808 8005002. Our information for parents and carers is here:

<https://kingstonandrichmondsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/parents-carers/helping-your-child-stay-safe-online-16.php>

And guidance for practitioners is here:

<https://kingstonandrichmondsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/practitioners/safeguarding-children-online-139.php>

Learning and Development

The KRSCP only offers online safeguarding training at this time, please use this link to create an Account for our free eLearning courses:

https://richmondscb.melearning.university/user/self_register.

Please note that we also provide interactive webinars for people to book onto please look at our training calendar here:

<https://kingstonandrichmondsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/training.php>

If you work within education and are interested in going on any of these courses and you can apply here:

<https://www.afccpdonline.co.uk/earlyyears/courses/bookings/default.asp?curpage=2>,

Otherwise you can apply for any here: <http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/training.php>

Child Safety Week 1-7 June 2020 #ChildSafetyWeek #SafetyMakesSense

Child Safety Week, the national awareness-raising campaign from the Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT), runs from 1-7 June 2020.

This year's theme is **Safety Makes Sense!**



Coronavirus restrictions have meant families are spending increased time at home meaning more exposure to some potential risks than usual, as well as reduced contact with universal services who can help raise-awareness. Lockdown may also mean that families may have more time available to them to tackle risks in the home. CAPT has produced the following dedicated area of its website <https://www.capt.org.uk/top-tips-lockdown> with top tips for parents and professionals.

They have also produced a parents' pack full of accessible information on the key risks in and around the home which you can download and share

https://www.capt.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=063f132e-7d4d-46cd-b861-d97cc06fd9ad&mc_cid=705cea1135&mc_eid=636f127cca

The parents' pack includes advice on continuing to seek medical help as and when the need arises and reassurance about the continuity of safe care accessible via 111, GP and Hospitals.

For young children the five key risks are falls, choking and strangulation, poisoning, drowning, and burns. Professionals may find it insightful to look in more detail at the data for unintentional injuries in and around the home in under 5s for [Kingston](#) and [Richmond](#) sourced from

<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles> to get a picture of most common causes of hospital admissions locally. Please do whatever you can to promote accident prevention to celebrate Child Safety Week 2020 and spread the message **#SafetyMakesSense**

Overheard - Did Not Attend (DNA)

Why 'Was Not Brought'?..... What's wrong with DNA?

We are working on our next Learning Hub theme of Neglect. So far some of our multi-agency learning is about children not attending important health appointments or school.

Describing children and young people as 'Was Not Brought' (WNB) instead of 'Did Not Attend' (DNA) encourages us to:

- Be alert to the fact that a child or young person is being neglected;
- Think about the situation from the child's perspective - they usually need to be taken to appointments;
 - Identify any impact on the child's wellbeing;
- Plan what support would help the child to receive the care they need, whether it be medical, education, dental or similar;
- Consider whether we need to share safeguarding information with other health or social care professionals.
- Non engagement is a strong feature in domestic abuse, serious neglect and physical abuse in children and families. (Working Together 2018) It is important to identify early signs of disengagement so that any potential risk to the child can be assessed.

IMPLEMENTING 'Was Not Brought' in your practice

How could following this guidance help you? It will:

- Prompt you to take a consistent approach to missed appointments;
- Give you peace of mind that children are less likely to 'slip through the net';
- Help meet the safeguarding children requirements of your organisation.

More here in our **Was Not Brought** Guidance:

<https://kingstonandrichmondsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/news-resources/policies-and-procedures-87/was-not-brought-guidance-255.php>