Welcome to the new look for the Schools 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. It is highly likely the Autumn term forums will be online and remote to observe social distancing guidance. I will keep you posted. Dates for the rest of the academic year will not change but locations might be moved to online…please put them in your diaries.

Upcoming safeguarding events for DSLs:

24 June 10am-12.30 online DSL safeguarding forum on Harmful Sexual Behaviour for all schools
30 June Domestic abuse deep dive 1 hour at 3.30pm online – link to follow

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 school. 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.
Emergency Forum Success, but your thoughts were revealing
Thank you to everyone who attended the online forum on 20 May to discuss the challenge of safeguarding during lockdown or Keeping Children Safe Out of Education. During the session, when we shared the various ways you have been managing safeguarding with the extra challenge of not seeing the children, you were asked to use one word to describe how you felt about your role during the lockdown. Your answers, seen on the right, were thought provoking and heartfelt and I thank you for your honesty.
Sharing your practices was very helpful and I had some really good feedback afterwards about how useful the session was. Many thanks to all the schools who shared ideas.

Recovery curriculum
Many children are highly anxious about returning to school. 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 disclosures made 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. For older children the loss of their exams will have had an impact on them and could affect the way they approach examinations in the future.

There are so many wide ranging factors that will affect a child’s return to school. 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/
Primary School Mental Health Resource

The Talking Mental Health Animation and Teacher the Anna Freud Centre is aimed at age school children to understand the difference between every day small feelings and a big feeling, how to be a good listener, and that it is really important to express how you feel. [www.annafreud.org](http://www.annafreud.org)

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**Cruse Richmond Bereavement Support Service**

Cruse has a strong, experienced group of volunteers, all having moved across to providing telephone and Zoom support, to new and existing clients. They can offer regular support to people within weeks of having registered with Cruse Richmond and are able to support 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. 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

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

**LGBT+ bullying and hate crime schools’ pack withdrawn by CPS**

Schools’ guidance on LGBT+ hate crime from the Crime Prosecution Service and endorsed by the NASAWT has been withdrawn after legal action was threatened by a 14 year old girl who claimed the guidance made her feel unsafe in school as she could be accused of hate crime if she asked a biological boy who identified as a girl to leave the girls toilets.

As a result of the withdrawal of the guidance we ask that schools in Kingston and Richmond who downloaded the guidance do not refer to it.

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**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)
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.

Don’t forget 30 June at 3.30 deep dive online learning for DSLs to prepare for likely rise in disclosures. Link to event will be sent soon.

Wellbeing during Covid-19 crisis
Youth Out Loud want to know about young people’s experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic. 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 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.
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

The important role of a “trusted adult” in ACEs

The role you play on the front line is so important in safeguarding, as you know, but did you know that the trusted relationships you build with a child can be all it takes stop an Adverse Childhood Experience having a life long impact on the child. It only takes one adult to have a positive impact on a child, helping them develop their resilience to enable them to turn toxic stress into something they can manage.

ThinkNinja is a mental health app designed for 10 to 18 year olds. It is free during the coronavirus pandemic. Using a variety of content and tools, it allows young people to learn about mental health and emotional wellbeing, and develop skills they can use to build resilience and stay well.

https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/thinkninja/?mc_cid=0b3b0f7e35&mc_eid=147929ed4a
This report on safeguarding children from sexual abuse in residential schools is useful reading for all schools: https://www.iicsa.org.uk/key-documents/18115/view/safeguarding-residential-schools-april-2020.pdf

It was published in April and its key findings were:

- Children were most at risk of online and peer abuse.
- Children wanted schools to be transparent in their teaching about Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) and to begin teaching them how to keep safe from an early age.
- There was a higher prevalence of reporting from schools who worked with children with SEND (Special Educational Needs &amp; Disabilities). Sometimes schools were confused about which Local Authority area should respond to concerns.
- There could be blurred boundaries between students and staff, as there was a lot of time spent together, particularly in schools with a SEND cohort. The best situations emphasised staff having open communication and trusting relationships with students.

### Table 5.1: Signs that could help staff identify child sexual abuse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavioural and emotional signs of child sexual abuse</th>
<th>Physical and material signs of child sexual abuse</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower level of engagement with staff, peers, or friends</td>
<td>Physical harm such as bruising</td>
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<tr>
<td>More negative behaviours, including poor attendance, aggression and sexualised behaviour</td>
<td>Changes in appearance, poor hygiene and self-care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low mood, heightened anxiety</td>
<td>Evidence of alcohol consumption</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Unexplained gifts or money</td>
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**Love through the letterbox**

Richmond Council is organising a letter-writing project to get young people writing letters to bring joy to our older, care-home residents. Please encourage the young people in your life to write or draw positive messages in letters that will be delivered to care homes across the borough. Send your letters to Love Through The Letterbox, Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham, TW1 3BZ and Richmond Council will forward the letters to care homes that want to be involved. Please include the child’s first name, year group and the name of the school that the young person attends so that the recipient can respond to the letter if they wish to.
Cybercrime free webinar on Tuesday
Short notice but this webinar looks very interesting. Thirty minutes on Tuesday 16 June with experts from the @metpoliceuk Cyber Choices team which helps YP avoid hacking and cybercrime. Even things they think are just fun might be illegal, so join and find out more http://safetraining.lgfl.net
https://twitter.com/LGfLDigiSafe/status/1270638113249988608

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 schools to help them set our strategic direction. Please get in touch with me (lucy.macarthur@kingrichlscb.org.uk) with your thoughts and I will pass them on to your education reps.

Children in Care Council
Connecting children who are looked after and supporting them through peer networks, the Children In Care Council is always welcoming new people to join.
E: 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