



Bexley S.H.I.E.L.D. e-Bulletin

July 2021

SHIELD
EXECUTIVE meeting

Updates from Bexley S.H.I.E.L.D. Executive

The focus of Bexley S.H.I.E.L.D. Executive meetings has continued to be split between strategic partnership business and the Department for Education-funded 'multi-agency safeguarding reforms' project. The Partnership Board met on 12 July to review and agree the Learning Hub's recommendations from Priority 7 – *Identifying and better understanding the young people we are most worried about in Bexley as a multi-agency safeguarding partnership* – as well as discussing the development of Bexley's Think Family protocol (with input from Chris McCree from South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust who is one of the advisors supporting the DfE project).



Learning Hub priorities

Priority 6 – Getting basic child protection right

An interim update report on progressing the action plan was presented at the 12 July 2021 Partnership Board. Some highlights include:

- The Neglect Strategy and toolkit has now been refreshed and is on the S.H.I.E.L.D. website: <https://bexleysafeguardingpartnership.co.uk/for-professionals/neglect/>
- Bruising in pre-mobile babies protocol is due for release by the end of the summer
- The substance use resource pack is also on the S.H.I.E.L.D. website: <https://bexleysafeguardingpartnership.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Bexley-SHIELD-substance-use-resource-pack-final.pdf>
- New domestic abuse training courses are being scheduled with Solace and Domestic Abuse Strategic Lead Deborah Simpson.

Priority 7 – Identifying and better understanding the young people we are most worried about in Bexley as a multi-agency safeguarding partnership.

Recommendations from the Learning Hub were shared with and agreed by the Partnership Board on 12 July 2021. Further feedback on work of Priority 7 will be given at S.H.I.E.L.D. annual conference on 8 October 2021.

Priority 8 – Identifying and better understanding the mental health of children, young people and families in Bexley in light of Covid-19 and the services available to support them.

Individual agencies will continue their research and intelligence-gathering throughout August with a drop-in session on 17 August. Hub members will meet again in September 2021 when recommendations are due to be set and shared with the Partnership Board on 18 October 2021.



Bexley S.H.I.E.L.D. annual conference – 8 October 2021 – save the date!

The partnership's third annual conference will take place in October and provide an overview of some of the work of the Learning Hub, Learning from Practice Group, F.L.A.R.E. and other activities undertaken between October 2020 and September 2021.

When: **Friday 8 October 2021 10.00am-2.30pm**

Where: **To be confirmed**

Who should attend: **the event is open to all professionals working with children and families in Bexley**

Please save the date if you wish to attend and look out for a calendar invite – further registration details will be provided in future bulletins.



MASH/Family Wellbeing best

Service leads from the MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) and Family Wellbeing are running an open day event for practitioners in Bexley to provide an overview of their services and the arrangements for making contact and referring in any children, young people or other safeguarding concerns. The event will also give attendees the opportunity to discuss any questions they might have with Bexley's current arrangements.

When: **Tuesday 14 September 2021 9.30am-12.30pm**

Where: **online event via MS Teams**

Who should attend: **the event is open to all professionals working in children's safeguarding in Bexley although we are keen to encourage health partners (in particular, from health visiting services and CAMHS), colleagues from the Police and schools, and some other key services (Pier Road Project, Bexley Moorings, Solace, Bexley Voice)**

To book a place: Please email shield@bexley.gov.uk and include full contact details (name, role, organisation, email address).

Substance use resource pack

As part of the work of the Learning Hub for Priority 6 – Getting basic child protection right – we have produced a resource pack for practitioners with the following information:

- Why do people use drugs and alcohol?
- Types of drugs and their effects
- Types of drug users
- e-learning course, 'Better Care for People with Co-occurring Mental Health and Alcohol/Drug Use Issues'
- Videos – 3 case studies/stories
- Services in Bexley:
 - Pier Road project (SLAM) – services for adults
 - Bexley Substance Misuse Service (Oxleas) – services for children and young people
- How to discuss drug and alcohol use?
- Useful resources
- Actions/next steps.



The resource pack is designed both for self-study or for use in team meetings and discussions. You can find the pack on our partnership website:

<https://bexleysafeguardingpartnership.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Bexley-SHIELD-substance-use-resource-pack-final.pdf>



Domestic abuse – resources for practitioners

As part of the work of Priority 6 – Getting basic child protection right – we have identified with LB Bexley's domestic abuse lead, Debee Simpson, the following resources which might be useful for practitioners to share with adolescents they are working with:

<https://www.idas.org.uk/healthyrelationships/>

<https://www.salcare.org.uk/healthy-relationships-program/>

<https://www.dayprogramme.org/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

<https://www.womensaid.org.uk/what-we-do/education-and-public-awareness/expect-respect/>

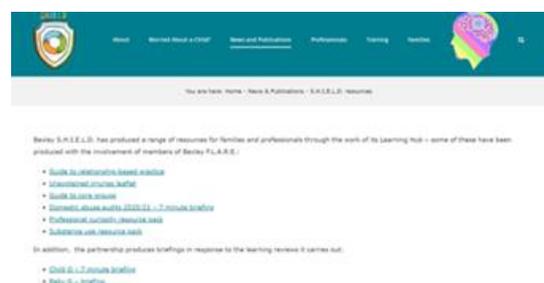
<https://thehideout.org.uk/>

<https://www.disrespectnobody.co.uk/>

[https://This is Abuse campaign summary report](https://This_is_Abuse_campaign_summary_report)

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

Bexley's multi-agency domestic abuse training programme is promoted via the S.H.I.E.L.D. training e-bulletin which is issued monthly via shield@bexley.gov.uk.



New web page with Bexley S.H.I.E.L.D. resources

We have added a new page to our partnership website to house our partnership leaflets, briefing notes and training resource packs. These appear elsewhere on our website but we have put them all in one place for easy access. We will continue to add to this page as we produce more guides and information. You can find the page here:

<https://bexleysafeguardingpartnership.co.uk/news-publications/s-h-i-e-l-d-resources/>

National guidance and useful resources



Government guidance and reports:

- [School inspections](#), Ofsted, 29th June 2021
- [Domestic abuse](#), House of Commons Library, 2nd July 2021
- [Education recovery](#), Department for Education, 2nd July 2021
- [Knife Crime](#), Home Office, 5th July 2021
- [Keeping children safe in education: statutory guidance](#), Department for Education, 6th July 2021
- [Sexual violence and sexual harassment in schools and colleges](#), Department for Education, 6th July 2021
- [Statutory guidance: Children Act 1989: care planning, placement and case review](#), Department for Education, 8th July 2021

Articles/News items

- [Sex, sexuality and gender in education](#), Ofsted, 6th July 2021

Resources/toolkits:

- [Online safety: reporting racism](#), UK Safer Internet Centre, 14th July 2021

Useful links

Previous S.H.I.E.L.D. e-bulletins are available [here](#).
The latest S.H.I.E.L.D. Training e-bulletin is available [here](#).

