



Welcome to the 16th edition of the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Information Update.

Please share this as widely as possible across your organisation. If you have any feedback, suggestions for improvement, or want to discuss anything else relating to the BSCB contact Joanne Stephenson, BSCB Business Manager: jstephenson@buckscc.gov.uk

The BSCB is a statutory partnership responsible for coordinating local arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and ensuring these are effective.

Changes to the BSCB

Following changes to the Working Together guidance (2018) Local Safeguarding Children Boards will be replaced by new local safeguarding arrangements, led by three safeguarding partners (local authorities, chief officers of police, and clinical commissioning groups).

The new Executive Group of the Safeguarding Partnership will be holding their first meeting in February 2019 and an update will be provided after this on the BSCB website.

There will be a duty on child death review partners (local authorities and clinical commissioning groups) to review the deaths of children normally resident in the local area – or, if they consider it appropriate, for those not normally resident in the area.

The current system for serious case reviews will be replaced by new national and local review arrangements.

The guidance states that there must be effective working links with other strategic arrangements “*this will include other public boards including Health and wellbeing Boards, Adult Safeguarding Boards, Channel Panels, Improvement Boards, Community Safety Partnerships, the Local Family Justice Board and MAPPAs*”.

Partners are reminded that “*organisations and agencies who are not named in the relevant agency regulations, whilst not under a statutory duty, should nevertheless cooperate and collaborate with the safeguarding partners particularly as they may have duties under section 10 and / or section 11 of the Children Act 2004*”.

For a summary of changes and links to the relevant chapters (3, 4 and 5) please see the [BSCB website](#).

BSCB Admin Team change

After five years of working for the BSCB, Carol Gorley, Board Administrator is moving on. Therefore any article requests for this newsletter (and anything else you would normally contact her about) need to be sent to either Jo Stephenson (BSCB Business Manager) or Ally Martindale (Board Administrator) - their contact details can be found on the [BSCB website](#).

The BSCB would like to say a huge thank you to Carol for her hard work and dedication and wish her the very best of luck moving forward.

Kooth.com - free online counselling, info and support service

There is an exciting new FREE online counselling, information and support service, called **Kooth.com**, available to all young people aged 11-18 (up to 19th birthday) registered with a GP in Buckinghamshire.

As a fully commissioned service from Oxford Health Foundation Trust, **Kooth.com** is a free, safe, confidential and non-stigmatised way for young people to receive information, advice and counselling on-line.

This popular service is used by large numbers of young people across the UK, and delivered over 28,000 counselling sessions last year alone. Their BACP accredited service, staffed by fully trained and qualified counsellors, is available until 10pm each night, 365 days per year, and provides much needed 'out of hours' support.

Kooth.com are keen for practitioners to know about them and understand what they can offer. Therefore, they would like to offer training sessions for practitioners to enable them to feel at ease when discussing **Kooth.com** with young people.

This could be as part of training days, twilight or even lunchtime sessions as it takes 30-40 minutes to give a presentation with a Q&A period. After gaining an understanding of Kooth.com they will also share with you a presentation that can be rolled out to Young People, or they can offer to come in to deliver them directly.

If you would like more information, publicity materials or to book free training for staff, please contact Kim Bunce on: kim.bunce@carersbucks.org or 07496 339783.



The Willow Project



The Victims First Willow Project has been launched by the Police and Crime Commissioner to support victims of all forms of exploitation across the Thames Valley. This includes modern slavery (human trafficking, forced labour, debt bondage, sexual exploitation, and domestic servitude) and other forms of exploitation such as those exploited by County Lines drug dealing.

The Willow Project is being delivered by Thames Valley Partnership and is one of a number of services for victims commissioned by the PCC within 'Victims First'. The service is designed to meet the specific needs of victims of exploitation who will have experienced significant trauma and will often require long term support to move forward with their lives.

Support workers from the Willow Project work with victims and their families to provide crisis intervention, advocacy and long term practical and emotional support. It also provides support to Thames Valley Police and other partner organisations in delivering training on exploitation and modern slavery and attending police raids and other operational activity to provide assistance to the victims.

The service will also provide specialist support to victims of other forms of serious crime who have developed complex needs as a result.

Victims of modern slavery and exploitation can be referred to the Willow Project through Victims First on **0300 1234 148** or www.victims-first.org.uk

'Click' - online safety production for Primary Schools

Bringing Internet Safety to Life

Buckinghamshire County Council had the pleasure in hosting an E-safety performance *Click*, during September and the first week of October.

The funding for the project making the play available to schools across the Thames Valley was provided by the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner and was the result of a successful bid to the Cybercrime grant in 2017.



The *Click* play was written by drama specialists AlterEgo Creative Solutions, with input from young people and teachers from the Thames Valley area, and included a resource pack to be used in the classroom afterwards.

Every Primary school in Buckinghamshire was invited to attend a performance, resulting in just under 6000 pupils seeing the production from over 100 schools.

I've learnt that you shouldn't be friends with strangers and to be careful who you talk to.

Kacey, Halton

The aim of the project was to develop an understanding of healthy online relationships, for young people, addressing topics including the sharing of inappropriate images and cyberbullying. The 45 minute production centred on

The message was extremely clear and it was put in an immensely fun way.

Tia, Halton School

critical thinking, digital literacy and online resilience. Key messages included how to look after your digital footprint, changing your privacy settings and filtering friends from strangers when online gaming. The group demonstrated how easily online grooming can happen and how fake profiles can be created. The children were asked to be aware of what they send online, and ensure that it cannot be used to trick, trap or bully them.

Some scenes displayed examples of an online proclivity towards sexist, homophobic, transphobic and racist comment and reminded the audience that many young users may be unknowingly making remarks of this kind. The group linked this to a cautionary message about the importance of making reasoned judgements on what we see and read online.

I don't have a phone yet but when I do I will take on board all the things you said. **Henry, Halton School**

Maintaining healthy online relationships was Alter Ego's final message, encompassing all that had come before. Peer pressure, they reminded us, is not normal and should be regarded as a red flag when encountered. They stressed that communication, equality, trust and respect are essential pillars of good online mental health.

For more information on AlterEgo Creative Solutions Ltd go to: <http://www.alteregocreativesolutions.co.uk/>

With special thanks to Davenies School for providing the photos



BSCB Training - new online booking system

The BSCB are pleased to advise that their new online Events Booking and Management system is now live.

The new online system should be used to book onto BSCB multi-agency training courses with event dates from 1st January 2019 onwards.

To access the new booking system, go the [Training homepage](#) on the BSCB website and click on the icon provided



To book training via the new system, delegates will first need to create a User Account. Once registered, they will be able to manage their own bookings, access course evaluations and any post course training materials, download their course certificate and view their training record. Hopefully delegates will find the system easy to use.

PLEASE NOTE - requirements for the new Online Booking System:

- It should be used for events running from 1st January 2019 onwards.
- Delegates **MUST** create their own individual User Account using their own/direct e-mail address. The system is **not** designed for one person to create an account in their name and book places for multiple members of staff.
- Old style training application forms (Word Doc) will no longer be accepted for events running from 1st January 2019 onwards.
- Purchase Order (PO) numbers must be quoted at the time of booking onto an event and cannot be added retrospectively.
- Please also ensure you and your agency are aware and understand both the BSCB's Terms and Conditions and the BSCB's [Charging/Cancellation Policy](#) prior to applying for training.
- Please note that emails are generated by the online system to the email address you provide upon setting up your User Account. Please be aware that some items may appear in your Junk Mail rather than your Inbox, depending on your own system set up/firewall, so please check your junk regularly.

As with all new systems we may have some teething problems so please bear with us and we will do everything we can to support delegates whilst we are getting used to the new system too.

If you have any queries please contact the BSCB Training team via bscbtrainingteam@buckscc.gov.uk or call **01296 387915**



The BSCB would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

We hope you found this newsletter informative - if you would like to provide any comments (positive or negative), or if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email: amartindale@buckscc.gov.uk.