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The All Wales School Liaison Core Programme

Newsletter

Summer 2016



Dear Colleague,

We hope you had an enjoyable Easter break.

This summer's edition is packed full of information, advice and news to help support you and your school. This term's special feature is about **child neglect**.

SPECIAL FEATURE

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What is child neglect?

Definition for Wales...

“ Neglect means a failure to meet a person's basic physical, emotional, social or psychological needs, which is likely to result in an impairment of the person's well-being (for example, an impairment of the child's development). ”

Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 (Wales)

Child neglect has four main areas:

- **PHYSICAL** – lack of basic needs like food, clothes etc.
- **EDUCATIONAL** – lack of support in learning
- **EMOTIONAL** – ignoring and failing to encourage the child, isolation or rejection
- **MEDICAL** – failure to give health care including dental health



Everyone who works in education should share the same goals to keep children and young people safe. If any member of staff has concerns or known facts about a child they should tell the **Designated Safeguarding Person (DSP)** in the school.

Everyones' responsibility

“ Over 24,300 children were identified as needing protection from neglect last year. ”

Source: Child protection plan statistics for England and child protection register statistics for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales (2015)

Things you may notice at school

If you are worried that a child is being neglected or abused watch out for changes in:

- behaviour
- relationships with other children
- emotion or self-perception
- school performance
- relationships with parents.

While early recognition and intervention are vital, it is never too late to help a child. **You can call the Police, social services or the NSPCC 0808 800 5000.**

If a child tells you that they or another young person is being neglected or abused, you should:

- show the child that you've heard what they are saying and that you take it seriously
- encourage the child to talk, but don't prompt or ask leading questions
- not interrupt when the child is telling you events
- not make the child repeat it all again and again
- explain what actions you must take, in a way that is right for their age and understanding
- not promise to keep a secret
- write down what you've been told, using the exact words if possible, as soon as you can
- make a note of the date, time, place and people who were present at the discussion
- not confront the alleged abuser

Children can contact MEIC or ChildLine 24/7.



In relation to the safeguarding of children, your **School Community Police Officer (SCPO)** can be contacted for general guidance and advice.



In the SPOTLIGHT..

Nicotine

Nicotine

Tobacco comes from the leaves of the tobacco plant. It contains a drug called **Nicotine**, which is highly addictive, and it's Nicotine that gives smokers their 'hit'. Smoking any drug gets it to the brain quickly. When a smoker inhales, the Nicotine reaches the brain in around 8 seconds.



Smoking and the Law

Since October 2007 it has been illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18 in England, Wales and Scotland. This includes products such as cigarettes, cigars, roll your own tobacco, pipes and rolling papers. It is against the Law to smoke in a public place due to the effect it has on others.

From 1 October 2015 it became illegal to smoke in a car (or other vehicles) with anyone under 18 present. The Law was changed to protect children and young people from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

Both the driver and the smoker can now be fined £50. The Law applies to every driver in England and Wales, including those aged 17 and those with a provisional driving licence.

Risks

- Tolerance and dependence on smoking can cause serious damage to health – smoking is a risk factor for emphysema, bronchitis, heart disease, strokes and cancers.
- It is estimated smoking contributes to 120,000 premature deaths in the UK each year.
- Because it causes circulatory problems it is linked to the amputation of 2,000 limbs a year.

- **Second hand smoke** – every time a child breathes in second hand smoke, they breathe in thousands of chemicals. This puts them at risk of serious conditions including meningitis, cancer, bronchitis and pneumonia. It can also make asthma worse.

- **Tobacco smoking in pregnancy** can result in damage to the foetus and low birth weight.



AWSLCP LKS2 TASK Lesson about Tobacco

For more information visit the teacher and pupil section on

www.schoolbeat.org



Contact details for DAN 24/7 – Wales Drug & Alcohol Helpline

- **Tel** – Free 0800 808 2234
- **Web** – www.dan247.org.uk for drug information and details of agencies in your local area
- **Text** – The word DAN and your question to 81066
- **Social media** – Twitter and Facebook can provide private messaging
 - **Facebook via DAN 24/7**
Wales Drug & Alcohol Helpline
 - **Twitter** – Private message @dan_247



Background

DAN 24/7 is a Wales wide, 24/7 contact service providing support and information and signposting to agencies that can help with a range of substance misuse problems. It's bilingual, free, confidential and accessible.

The hot topic at the moment for DAN 24/7 is the misuse of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

DAN 24/7 has a dedicated information section on NPS offering advice and guidance for users, parents and carers.

“ Whether it's a tablet or powder - how do you know what is actually in them? NPS have been known to be made up of all sorts of horrible materials... ”

Janet Roberts – DAN24/7 Helplines manager

Self-balancing Scooters and Personal Transporters



Self-balancing scooters, particularly hoverboards are very popular with children and young people.

Personal transporters, such as the Segway Personal Transporter are powered by electricity and transports a passenger standing on a platform propelled on two or more wheels. Hoverboards are a Segway without the central column and handle. They are capable of speeds up to 12mph.

The Law

You can only ride an unregistered self-balancing scooter on land which is private property and with the landowner's permission. As they are considered motor vehicles, those riding them will be subject to Road Traffic Law. Self-balancing scooters would not currently meet the requirements of these schemes so are not legal for road use.

It is an offence under Section 72 of the Highway Act, 1835 to ride or drive a vehicle on the pavement in England and Wales.

The Department for Transport would advise that appropriate safety clothing should be worn at all times.

Beth Nesa'/What Next?

In autumn 2015, a survey from the Children's Commissioner for Wales' office, called **Beth Nesa'/What Next?**



asked almost 7,000 children, young people and adults what they thought the Commissioner should focus on during the next few years.

Results were published in February 2016.

The findings showed that children's main priorities were:

For 3 - 7 year olds

- More places to play
- More money for families

For 7 - 11 year olds

- Stopping children being bullied
- Helping children and families who don't have enough money
- Making local areas safer for children



Young people between 11 and 18 years wanted to see:

- Action to prevent young people being bullied.
- Protection of children from violence and abuse in the home.
- Better places for young people to spend time in the local area.



Adults also responded to the survey and asked for:

- Better support for children who are worried or feeling low.
- Protecting children from violence and abuse in the home.
- More help for children and families who don't have enough money.

What will happen to the information?

The information collected as part of the **Beth Nesa'/What Next?** project will have a big impact on how the Commissioner's office works in the near future.

The office will focus on the following during the next three years:

- **Mental health, wellbeing and tackling bullying**
- **Poverty and social inequalities**
- **Play and leisure**
- **Safety (in the community, school and at home)**
- **Raising awareness of the UNCRC and promoting its adoption across public services**
- **Transitions to adulthood for all young people requiring continuing support and care**

You can find more information on the survey, including a full summary of results, on the Children's Commissioner's Website:

www.childcomwales.org.uk



What's new ?

RESPECT AND RESILIENCE

Introduction

The UK Government's Counter Terrorism and Security Act CTSA (2015) has placed a legal duty on all schools to have due regard to prevent people from being radicalised.

What does this mean for your school?

The Welsh Government has updated their original guidance Respect and Resilience. Developing Community Cohesion - A common understanding for schools and their communities. (2011)

The new guidance and toolkit supports all schools to fulfil their duty under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (CTSA) (2015) to help keep learners safe. The documents are available on the Welsh Government website.

- Respect and Resilience Developing Community Cohesion Respect and Resilience updated guidance (2016)
- Respect and Resilience self-assessment tool (2016)
- All schools will be expected to demonstrate how they are paying due regard to the CTSA (2015) and will held accountable by Estyn. See Estyn's supplementary guidance document: [http://Supplementary Guidance: Safeguarding in schools and PRUs. \(2015\)](http://Supplementary Guidance: Safeguarding in schools and PRUs. (2015))

Immediate actions for schools



- Undertake a review of the school's compliance with the CTSA (2015) using the self-assessment tool and agree an action plan to address areas for further development
- Ensure that the **Designated Senior Person (DSP)** and the lead governor for child protection have received appropriate training
- Ensure the **DSP** and other key staff know the referral pathway and key contacts in the Local Authority for referring learners who you may have concerns about
- Ensure that the school's web filtering systems will keep learners safe and be aware of the risks associated with the use of the wide range of digital technologies to which they have access
- Ensure all staff are aware of the indicators that a learner might be vulnerable to radicalisation.

Ask your School Community Police Officer for further guidance.

Following training all of our SCPOs are familiar with the Toolkit.



New Assembly PowerPoint Presentation Aimed at KS3/4

'KEEP CALM AND KNOW THE FACTS', aims to raise awareness of what extremism is and to reduce the fear of terrorism in order to help young people feel safer.

The presentation explores key issues around the problems of stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination that may lead to hate crime. The assembly input focuses on radicalisation and the signs to look out for. Pupils are taught what extremism is and where to seek help if they are concerned about anyone.

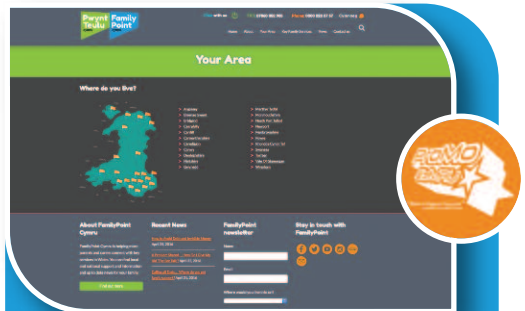
For more information please speak with your SCPO.



FamilyPoint Cymru is a NEW bilingual service for parents, carers and anyone responsible for a child or young person in Wales.

Funded by the Welsh Government it's the place to go for family information and advice on everything from local activities and childcare, to help with money problems, housing issues, and keeping kids safe online.

The mobile-friendly website is easy to navigate with a page for each county packed full of useful links to local services and essential contacts, as well a quick and reliable search function with up to date news articles on parenting, money saving tips and other relevant information. Local events are also highlighted using social media.



Understanding that for some families the internet is a barrier to communication, parents can use the FamilyPoint Cymru helpline for help with searching and finding impartial advice by text, phone or online chat.

Website www.familypoint.cymru

Facebook @familypointcymru/

Twitter @familypointcym

Helpline Text: 07860 052905

Hot off the press!

Ministers' insight into SCPO's role in schools

The pupils of Barry Comprehensive School were pleased to welcome Vaughan Gething AM, The Deputy Minister for Health and Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance and Government Business to their school last term.

Mr. Gething and Mrs. Hutt observed the Programme's **'New and Nasty' New Psychoactive Substances** lesson delivered by SCPO Mudie.

Mr. Gething said, "The pupils were fully engaged in the lesson" and went on to observe plays written and performed by the pupils to show how important the

work of the SCPO in school was to their wellbeing.

Both Ministers were delighted with the opportunity to participate in learning about such an important topic!



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