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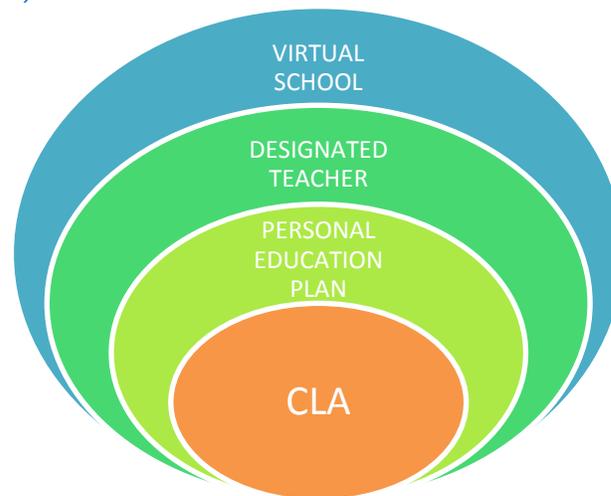
## Useful Links

[www.knowsleyscb.org](http://www.knowsleyscb.org)

## Child Protection Standards

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the->

**Children Looked After**— “Children in care or looked after children are children who have become the responsibility of the local authority. This can happen voluntarily by parents struggling to cope or through an intervention by children’s services because a child is at risk of significant harm,” NSPCC



## Quality Assurance Unit

An update was shared with KSCCB relating to the QAU service plan and the Independent Reviewing Officer report. Key developments within the unit have included the appointment of Debbie Cashman as the senior conference and review manager. Some of the roles and functions covered by staff in the QAU include,

- Local Authority Designated Officer - LADO
- Independent Review Officers – IRO
- Participation Officer
- Chairing of CLA reviews and Child Protection reviews
- Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy - SUDI
- Fabricated and Induced Illness enquiries –FII
- Audit functions including audits of Personal Education Plans –PEP’s

**LADO** – This function in the QAU is managed by the senior Conference and Review manager. The LADO has responsibility for the management of

prevent-  
duty#content

## Protecting Children from Radicalisation: The Prevent Duty

[http://www.knowsle  
yscb.org.uk/](http://www.knowsle<br/>yscb.org.uk/)

## 60 Minute Safeguarding Sessions

allegations against adults who work with children. The LADO is involved in the initial phase of the allegation through to the conclusion of the case. They will also provide advice, guidance and help to determine whether the allegation sits within the scope of the procedures.

The LADO helps co-ordinate information sharing with the right people and will monitor and track any investigation with the aim to resolve it as quickly as possible. Knowsley QAU currently operates a duty model for the LADO role.

Multi Agency LADO referral document



LADO Referral  
template 2014.doc

### **Annual Review of Looked After Children**

Statistical information was feedback to the board which indicated that in the period scrutinised there was evidence of a 20% increase in children in care in Knowsley. This is in line with the increase in contacts recorded nationally, and in local contacts in relation to thresholds.

There is a focus on continuing to promote adoption as well as the possibility of expanding local residential provision.

Key within the review is the attendance and attainment of Children Looked After.

### **Education of Children Looked After**

The Education Support Team as part of the Virtual School, support the Education of Children Looked After. The Education Support team are,

#### Joint Acting Manager

Wendy Sheridan – [wendy.sheridan@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:wendy.sheridan@knowsley.gov.uk) 4435828

Jenny Clay – [jenny.clay@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:jenny.clay@knowsley.gov.uk) 4434059

#### Key Worker Key Stage 2 & 3

Damian Julienne – [Damien.julienne@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:Damien.julienne@knowsley.gov.uk) 443 4076

#### The Head Teacher of the Virtual School

Alex Roper – Education Improvement Officer. 443 5310

Promoting the attendance and attainment of children looked after and ensuring the completion of Personal Education Plans.

## Contact Us

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## Private Fostering



There is due to be a review of the Knowsley procedures relating to Private Fostering. Local Authorities have a duty to raise public awareness of the requirements for Private Fostering.

Private Fostering is an arrangement made privately for the care of a child under the age of 16 yrs (18 if they have a disability) by someone other than a parent or close family relative for the period of 28 days or more.

Private Fostering arrangements would include living with cousins; great aunt/uncle; a friend of the family; parents of a young person's boyfriend/girlfriend; someone unknown who is willing to privately foster a child.

Recommendations from the report made to KSCB include;

- Training provided to all agencies
- Review and update of Private Fostering procedures
- Review and update of publicity materials
- The development of a Private Fostering multi agency forum

## Early Help

Actions taken and being considered in order to ensure the provision of safe and effective Early Help services where shared with KSCB partners.

This included a number of features, such as, a review of Family First 0-11 and Stronger Families 11-18, developing more streamlined and efficient services that assist in reducing the numbers of children inappropriately accessing service provided by Children's Social Care.

Key proposals include

- The development of a single Family Support (Family First 0-18) Service to be implemented by September 2015
- The new service to be locality based (probably three teams)
- Early Help Quality Assurance Framework used to ensure quality of Early Help assessment
- The implementation of the Early Help Module, the IT system for Early Help.
- The development and role of the Early Help team co-located in the MASH.

In order to ensure these key proposals are embedded the role of an Assistant Director for Early Help has been identified.

## Updates



### **MASH**

In order to address the identified need of having education representation in the MASH, the Schools Funding Forum have agreed funding for an initial 12 month secondment of an education practitioner in the MASH.

The offer of the secondment will go out to schools in the first instance, with the hope of having someone in post for September.

### **Child Sexual Exploitation**

Further progress has been made with regards to the setting up of a dedicated Child Sexual Exploitation team. The team is currently co-located within the MASH.

As part of the ongoing evaluation of the team a significant gap in representation has been identified with regards to the schools secondary sector. In order to address this, a presentation was made to the Secondary Heads Forum, it has been suggested that CSE is a standing item on the meetings' agenda.

There is a continuing requirement to evaluate each agencies contribution in working together to address the issue of CSE.

### **Child Criminal Exploitation**

Criminal Exploitation of Children has been recognised as having an emerging profile nationally which is reflecting the established pattern known locally in Knowsley.

Common factors include the identification of children that have been arrested in other areas and also children with patterns of missing from home and **missing from education**.

There is a 'health warning' to local authorities to be aware that the profile of the children targeted changes quickly. Once one group of children are known to be targeted and used, the criminals involved exploit the vulnerabilities of different groups.

Schools need to be aware and vigilant to the vulnerability of children from this type of exploitation.

### **Improvement Plan**

Feedback was given to the board on the improvement plan, and the concerns raised in relation to a number of issues including,

- Social Worker case loads - Volume and Complexity
- Pressure of Children In Need case loads
- Retention of staff

These issues are being addressed within Children's Social Care and further

evaluation of progress is being measured against the improvement plan. Particular pressure points involve Children Looked After and Child Protection plans, there is acknowledgement of the contribution agencies, including schools are required to make, and their support in relation to ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of meeting the needs of these children.

### **Section 175 Audits**

In line with the 2002 Education Act there is a statutory requirement for schools to complete Section 175 Audits.

The KSCB 175 Audit for schools is provided via an electronic version of the audit. This E Version has recently been revamped to reflect the issues that have been highlighted by discussions with schools and the safeguarding board.

It is expected that the new updated version will be available to schools before the end of the summer term. With a request that each school will complete their audit during the first 2 weeks in September 2015.

User names and passwords can be obtained from Carly Gebhardt  
[carly.gebhardt@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:carly.gebhardt@knowsley.gov.uk)

Please contact Vicki Clements or Susan Pennington if there are any issues in relation to the wording of the questions in the audit.

### **Multi Agency Audit reports**

Reports were presented from the chair of the Audit Review Group to the board relating to the Audit of Child Protection Standards, and also the CSE Audit which were completed February and May respectively.

The recommendations and action points from the audits include:

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Action</b>
CP standards need to be followed by all professionals involved in the child protection process	CP Standards to be reviewed and re launched ( <b>Completed</b> )
Child protection standards being easily accessible for all professionals working in Knowsley	Revised CP standards to be available via the new KSCB web site ( <b>completed</b> )
Consideration given to re-auditing compliance with CP standards	Further audit required after a period of time to ensure all professionals are utilising CP Standards ( <b>to be completed at agreed time</b> )
CSE Sub Group have requested an in depth audit later in the year to learn from changes in practice and process.	The specifics of this audit are yet to be determined ( <b>Ongoing</b> )

The next audit will look at Early Help in Knowsley and will take place in September 2015. The audit tool and sample cases will be available to relevant practitioners by mid July 2015.

In order to support schools in participating as a partner in the KSCB audit process it has been suggested a briefing session be held for Head Teachers and Designated Safeguarding Leads in September. Date and Venue to be confirmed.

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## Information and training

### **Protecting Children from Radicalisation: The Prevent Duty**

New guidance has been issued by the DfE was issued on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015. This statutory guidance is part of schools departmental advice; running a school or college; schools, colleges and children's services safeguarding children. For further details follow the relevant link in this document.

### **KSCB 60 Minute Safeguarding sessions**

Strategy Discussions and Section 47 Enquiries

KSCB are continuing to offer their 60 Minute Safeguarding Training Sessions. The next one takes place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015, 12:00pm to 1:00pm. For further details please check out the KSCB website or follow the link in this document.