

Signs of Safety newsletter

ISSUE 8 January 2020

Happy New Year to everyone

Reflecting on the introduction of Signs of Safety into our practice, I would like to thank all those who have participated in the training throughout 2019 and for embracing the model and using it in practice.

Signs of Safety was implemented in 2019 and throughout 2020 and beyond, the plan is for the model to be embedded into practice.

In 2019 we saw the launch of the Knowsley Signs of Safety practice guidance and Signs of Safety briefing paper. In 2020, a Signs of Safety Strategy will be drafted and circulated to partners.

Child protection conference

Initial child protection conferences went live in September 2019. The conferences are presented in the Signs of Safety model and are now strength based as well as focusing on risks. The meetings no longer involve parents and professionals sitting around a table listening to all the concerns about a child - there is focus on what is going well in a family.

At the conference, feedback has been taken from families and professionals which in the main has been positive.

Very positive, good parental involvement, less jarnony, more child focussed.

More relaxed, focused on the current concerns, good.

A lot more interaction between parents and professionals.

Open room feels less formal which may help mum be more open.

Communication with all agencies and parents was efficient and relaxed.

Training

Further training dates (introduction to Signs of Safety) have been arranged (see below) and can be booked via Carol.Thomas@knowsley.gov.uk

28 and 29 January 2020 at Partnership for Learning, South Road, Speke, L24 9PZ
30 and 31 March 2020, St Helens Town Hall, 8 Victoria Square, St Helens WA10 1HP

Support and coaching workshops have been arranged to support staff and partners to embed Signs of Safety beyond the two and five day training events as follows:-

Danger statements and safety goals - 16 January 2020, 9.30am to 12.30pm or 1.30pm to 4.30pm at St Helens Town Hall, Room 10, Victoria Square, St Helens, WA10 1HP

Signs of Wellbeing, in particular aimed at the fostering and children looked after teams – date, 9.30am to 12.30pm or 1.30pm to 4.30pm at Partnership for Learning, Speke.

IT

As stated in previous newsletters, Knowsley is introducing the Signs of Safety EHM/ICS forms in line with Signs of Safety. The systems will be reviewed and tested and should be fully aligned to Signs of Safety by July 2020.