

# Welcome to the WSSCB Email Bulletin July 2018



The WSSCB would like to welcome Lesley Walker, who is the **new Independent Chair** of the WSSCB. Here are a few words from Lesley;

"I am delighted to have been appointed as the new Chair of West Sussex Safeguarding Children Board. My key focus will clearly be, to ensure our multi-agency partnership is working really effectively to Safeguard children and young people in West Sussex.

I am a social worker by profession and have over 30 years' experience in Safeguarding children and young people in various roles, in Local Authorities in England and in Integrated Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland. I have spent over 28 years in Managerial positions including more recently Director of Operations and Co-Director.

I particularly enjoy engaging with multi-agency partners including the community and voluntary sector to ensure we work more effectively together to improve children's outcomes. I have chaired several complex high-level partnerships including Safeguarding Boards, Safeguarding Panels and Early Intervention and Prevention Partnerships. My passion is to ensure we are getting it right for children and young people and that they feel safer as a result of our interventions. As Chair, I want to improve how we engage children and young people in the work of the Board and that their voice is heard throughout all our work. I am really look forward to working with you all to effectively Safeguard the Children and young people of West Sussex".



**Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018** is now published and replaces the 2015 version. Click [here](#) to read this revised document and the summary of key changes.



Back in March of this year we asked you to complete a survey around your current knowledge and understanding around child sexual abuse (CSA). We had over 200 responses and the majority told us that they wanted **more resources and materials** to improve their ability and confidence in order to identify and tackle this aspect of safeguarding and child protection. We have developed a CSA Factsheet which is now available on our website by clicking [here](#). This resource can be used to refresh your knowledge as a professional, as a tool for discussions in supervisions and team meetings or to expand your current understanding of CSA.



**Payments** for WSSCB training courses are now taken at the time of booking. As per the last email bulletin this revised way came into force from July 2018 and it is expected that this new process will make the payment system much smoother and more effective for both the delegate and the WSSCB. If your organisation contributes directly to the WSSCB budget, payment options will remain the same. For full details and to view our charging policy click [here](#).



The West Sussex Safeguarding Children Board, Safeguarding Adult Board and Community Safety are carrying out some specific work together around **modern slavery**. In order to gain an understanding of the current level of the workforce's knowledge and understanding around this aspect of safeguarding we are asking you to complete a short survey by clicking on the link below. **This will take no more than 5 minutes.** [Take me to the survey](#) **Thank you!**



Although applying **sun cream** is on the mind of many parents before they head outside with their children, it is important to inform parents of the need to regularly reapply sunscreen throughout the day. Even cream that has a high protection factor or states that it lasts all day can be rubbed off with towels, inflatables, arm bands or changes in clothes. If

children are being taken for out the day with a different family member or friend, make sure they take sun cream with them and the adult knows when to reapply. Also remember hats and cool clothes with sleeves are just as important to pack! Click [here](#) to read more about staying safe in the sun.



With the summer now in full flow, the families you work with and the children you support may well be spending time near water. This could be swimming pools, at the beach or friends with paddling pools. It is vital that you **share messages of water safety** and let parents and carers know the importance of supervising children at **all** times. For more information around water safety click [here](#).



With the summer holidays nearly upon us many children of all ages will be spending more time online visiting a variety of sites, chatting to others and playing games. Click [here](#) to visit our website for resources to share with parents and young people about how to stay safe online.



## The **Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)**

provide a range of services to anyone aged 14 and above who has experienced sexual abuse or sexual violence in Sussex. They are holding open days between August and December for professionals to visit the Saturn Centre and find out more about the service they provide. Places must be booked so click [here](#) to visit our website where you will find a quick link to each of the dates as well as details on how to book on.



**This was included in last month's email bulletin but due to the forthcoming summer holidays which will no doubt include days out and picnics it was felt it was important to raise awareness of this issue in this bulletin too.....**

Would the parents and carers of the children you work with know how to help their child if they started **choking**? Now that the weather is warming up, children may well be having picnics in open air spaces such as fields, parks and

other areas where there aren't many other people around to call upon if help was needed in an emergency. Picnic food such as grapes, tomatoes, apple pieces and small sweets can be choking hazards and it is important that parents, carers and professionals working with children and young people know how to deal with a choking emergency. There are ways to reduce the risk of choking such as cutting food up into safer shapes. For example making sure grapes are cut in half **LENGTHWAYS** and ensuring children are sat down when they eat rather than running around. Click [here](#) to view a video showing you how to deal with a choking child and click [here](#) to view a video showing you how to deal with a choking baby under the age of 1 year. Click [here](#) to read information on choking and ways to prevent it.



We currently have **617** following our WSSCB Twitter account but we would like **more!** Follow us at **@WestSussexLSCB** for updates on all things safeguarding!. We would love to get to 1000 followers by the end of the year so tell your friends and colleagues!!



Got any news or information that you would like included in the next WSSCB Email Bulletin? Simply press reply to this email or email the address below.

Kind Regards,

Lucy Short



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