



Registered Manager's Forum .

May 28<sup>th</sup> 2021

# Focus areas for today

- Coronavirus- update
- Issues going forward to consider
- Themes to consider arising from the education review of safeguarding
- 16-18 provision - consultation



# Current situation- coronavirus

- R rate UK 0.9 – 1.1- 21.5.21
- SW 0.8 – 1.1
- NB . the R rate becomes really difficult to calculate when numbers are low.
- 1<sup>st</sup> dose- 39 million approximately
- 2<sup>nd</sup> dose- 24 million approximately
- 1<sup>st</sup> dose adult population- 69.9%
- 2<sup>nd</sup> dose adult population- 39%
- 2.2-2.9K cases per day
- Indian variant is of the greatest concern given its' transmissibility. Now in wide areas of the country with distinct hot spots

## Current situation- coronavirus

- consideration of vaccination of children 6 years – 18 years.
- booster vaccination programme for all 9 previous groups plus clinically vulnerable and ? key workers.
- trial re. mixing vaccine types
- possible spike Oct- Feb within winter profile of disease.
- June 21<sup>st</sup> lifting of restrictions- data over the next few weeks will be key.
- mandatory vaccinations for certain job roles ( e.g. elder care) under consideration

## Safeguarding issues going forward:

- Poverty
- Accommodation
- Free school meal indicator- already rising
- Domestic abuse up/ operation encompass reports up
- Disruption of support networks( relatives shielding , death from COVID-19 )
- Increase in parental substance misuse especially alcohol
- Neglect
- Increase in the number of children/young people with additional needs
- Impact on young carers- have they become a young carer because of COVID-19 / long COVID-19 for a parent or carer? Up 3% already.
- Impact of social isolation
- Regression
- Mental health issues- emotional / social resilience, self harm , behaviour
- Digital poverty

## Safeguarding issues going forward:

- Challenge in getting all our linked agency systems up and running up to 10 months
- Increased levels of vulnerability in relation to CE
- Impact of increased social media exposure
- Potential increase in looked after children
- Impact on the BAME community
- Need for increased resources?
- Need for strategic planning
- Build in responses as a part of progress monitoring
- Impact on youth employment
- Impact on FE / HE settings- levels of apprenticeships declined in keys areas such as hospitality.
- Reflect on likely impact on young people , especially those coming to your service after this pandemic experience
- Reflect on the potential impact of multi agency issues going forward

## What next?

- A lot to think about? Need to plan.....
- Are RM's and RI's confident in the short term , medium term?
- Do you have clear views at the moment of the impact(s) / interventions/ potential issues for vulnerable young people at home , in school , with mentors, online learning, emotional health, in broader society?
- Do you have clear links and input to senior leadership processes in relation to COVID-19 and the longer term strategic planning which will be necessary for the service?
- This is an evolving situation and we will need to continue responding at different points and phases
- Any other thoughts.....?

## “Everyone’s Talking “ – impact:-

Following the disclosures on this website ( now over 16,000) most relating to the experience of young people (largely girls and young women) of sexual assault / sexual violence in a range of school settings the Department for Education set up a review process to take place during May 2021. This has three key areas of reference:

- safeguarding and the curriculum
- multi- agency safeguarding arrangements
- victim’s voice and reporting

This naturally cross references to the residential and early years areas so worth making sure that you have looked at your safeguarding arrangements, your teams are up to date and can speak to what they would do in these circumstances

## “Everyone’s Talking “ – impact:-

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofsted-review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges>
- Early themes from inspections include:
  - Safeguarding
  - How you hear and act upon the child’s voice
  - Impact of the pandemic on the young people- with an especial focus on progress/ education – make sure your education links/ communication are secure
  - Any other thoughts? Any feedback from anyone who has already had an inspection since the start of April ?

## Children's Commissioner:

- launch of the Big Ask -

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

- *"This is your chance to have your say on the things that matter to you. You can tell us what your life is like, what you want in the future, and anything you think is holding you back.*

*We'll use what you say to tell the people who run the country or your local area what you think needs to change to make your life better."*

-



# The Big Ask continued:

- The results from ‘The Big Ask’ will be at the heart of the Childhood Commission, a once in a generation review of the future of childhood, inspired by the ambition of William Beveridge’s pioneering 1940s report, which laid the foundations of the post-War social security system. The Childhood Commission will identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their full potential, propose solutions and come up with targets by which improvements can be monitored.
- Closes May 28<sup>th</sup> .....



## Other information:

- <https://socialcareinspection.blog.gov.uk/2021/05/25/in-care-during-covid-19-what-children-told-us-about-lockdown/>
- Positive and complimentary . One area of concern related to contact during the lockdown periods- children and family responses
- Introducing national standards for unregulated provision-Department for Education- Citizen Space
- Consultation now open re. 16-18 provision- quality standards and regulation

Lots to think about:-

- any thoughts , questions ?

