



Hampshire
Safe guarding
Children
Partnership



Portsmouth Safeguarding
Children Partnership
Protecting Portsmouth's Children



SOUTHAMPTON SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP

HIPS CHILD EXPLOITATION NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2020

The Safeguarding Children Partnerships of Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton (HIPS) are working together to tackle child exploitation.

This newsletter provide a quarterly update to practitioners in the HIPS areas to ensure they are up-to-date with local and national developments discussed at the Child Exploitation Group.

The HIPS Child Exploitation Group would like to thank practitioners across all agencies for their ongoing work to keep children safe.

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Beware of the Lurking Trolls!

The e-safety campaign 'Beware of Lurking Trolls!', is aimed at raising awareness to children and young people of the dangers they face when online, using social media or mobile phones. A Portsmouth based project to deliver this HIPS wide is near completion with a launch event being planned for January 2021.



Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership are working with a research student to evaluate the outcomes of this project which will be shared with the HIPS Exploitation Group once completed.



Exploitation Delivery Plans

The HIPS Child Exploitation Strategy is available on the HIPS Procedures website.

The four Safeguarding Children Partnerships will be updating on progress on the implementation of their delivery plans quarterly with a different objective focused on each quarter. A summary will be included in this newsletter.

Safe and Well Presentation of School Survey Results

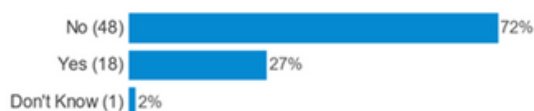
The health and wellbeing school survey results were shared with the meeting, 67 Hampshire schools participated.

Some key headlines from children and young people responses included:

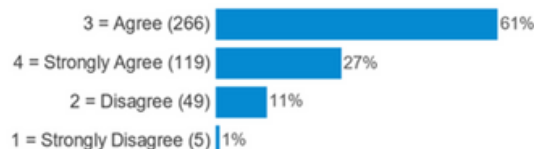
- Overall, Secondary pupils reported feeling less safe than primary pupils with a Mean 'Feeling Safe' score of 6.9 vs 7.3 in primary. (Lower scores mean students feel overall less safe and higher scores mean they feel safer overall, score was 0-9)
- 25% of secondary pupils said they do not feel confident to report inappropriate behaviour experienced either online or in real life to a trusted adult or online.
- Of those at secondary who have been asked to send inappropriate pictures of themselves, significantly more girls than boys have been asked.
- When asked about their worries in friendships or relationships, 17.9% of primary / 5.8% secondary said they were worried about people talking to them online.
- Face to face with an education or health professional were the preferred sources of advice for all age groups. A high proportion of pupils would like to have the option to get advice or support from more than once source.

School staff reported the following:

In the last academic year, has the school bought in external providers to deliver training to staff on: (Child Criminal or Sexual Exploitation)



I feel confident to identify a child or young person who may be at risk of / is being exploited



If you would like to learn more about the results please contact healtheducation@hants.gov.uk.

Examples of good practice which reference listening and responding to the voice of the child were circulated prior to the meeting. More examples need to be collated before a summary can be produced and shared in this newsletter.

If you can help please send your succinct examples to hscp@hants.gov.uk

It Was Hard to Escape

Safeguarding children at risk from criminal exploitation

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel published It Was Hard to Escape in March 2020. This was a national review into adolescent deaths or serious harm where criminal exploitation was a factor. The specific focus was on the response to children who have already been drawn into exploitation and where high levels of serious harm have been identified.

Southampton Professionals have convened a task and finish group to examine the two connected questions of this review, namely:

- Do adolescents in need of state protection from criminal exploitation get the help they need, when they need it?
- How can the services designed to keep adolescents safe from criminal exploitation, and the way those services work together, be improved to prevent further harm?

The HIPS exploitation group will continue to consider the themes of this review and encourage professionals to read the report and review the key questions within their own agencies.

A message from the Youth Commission

presented by Amelia and Julia



In quarter two, April – June 2020, we received responses from a variety of young people aged from 14-25, which is the range that we aim to survey helping to ensure a wider understanding of the issue.

The main theme throughout the majority of the responses was about ‘providing support’ and ‘raising awareness’, with a respondent who had been a victim of exploitation stating that they needed to be given “better opportunities to speak out”.

Another respondent, who has also been a victim of sexual abuse and exploitation, had a similar suggestion as they stated, “parents should be encouraged to have frequent conversations with their kids about these topics to help prevent it happening.”

Additionally, other responses mentioned doing this at school with education and awareness around this issue is particularly important,

as for many they may find it easier to talk to someone at school or a signposted service rather than their family.

As someone worryingly said, “Sometimes shut up and put up is better than speaking up”. So it is vital people know where they can go for help if they need it and are helped in order to recognise the signs, as they also stated “most people who get groomed or exploited don’t even realise it till it’s too late, and by then no one believes you”.

Another theme that came up in many responses was around social media.

Finally, one comment that could be made about the respondents is that the majority were from the same areas such as Winchester, Portsmouth and the New Forest. In the next quarter, we could try to increase the range of the responses so they are more reflective of all of Hampshire, although this is obviously difficult to achieve at the moment.

Caitlin O’Farrell
Exploitation Mentor
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Youth Commission

Modern Day Slavery

The Modern Slavery Partnership for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight is a multi-agency partnership, chaired and facilitated by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

Facilitated by Hampshire Safeguarding Children’s Partnership they have been delivering virtual webinars jointly with the Willow Team. Further courses are being planned and an e-learning is being developed. These will be available at:

<https://hampshirescp.event-booking.org.uk>.

Visit: www.modernslaverypartnership.org.uk for more information on the work of the Modern Day Slavery Partnership.

To mark Anti-Slavery Day on the 18th October 2020 a series of communications messages were made available to partners to share.

County lines drug supply often features the exploitation of young and vulnerable people who are exposed to physical, mental and sexual abuse, and could be trafficked to areas a long way from home as part of the network’s drug dealing business #AntiSlaveryDay2020 #MSP

