**Cluster Group Minutes**

**Wednesday 13th October & Thursday 14th October**

**Please click** [**here**](https://hillingdon-my.sharepoint.com/%3Av%3A/g/personal/hives_hillingdon_gov_uk/EbiTKVve4kxKp2Z4gRVVq8AB4nVvUZ3jzAK0JLF7uy15KA?e=qEXPhH) **to view a recording of Thursdays session (please note the first speaker is not recorded due to GDPR). All presentations are shared in the document below.**

**1. Paula Boyle –** MA Psychotherapist and Service Manager Harlington Hospice

Child and Adolescent Bereavement Service

Presentation on working with Pre and Post Bereaved Children & Young People

Website: <https://www.harlingtonhospice.org>

To make referrals schools can contact Cabsreferrals@harlington.org

**Presentation (see attachment 1)**

**2. Kathryn Angelini -** Head of Hillingdon Virtual school

Updates from the Virtual School (including dates for training including trauma & attachment which DSLs can access)

**Presentation (see attachment 2)**

**3. Sarah Dolan** – Minet Infant School DSL

Sarah is going to be the lead on a new schools discussion group supporting transgender young people. More schools are supporting Transgender young people and it is acknowledged there is a lack of clear government guidance in this area. Lots of schools got in touch to say they would be keen to get together and share thoughts, ideas and good practice. Sarah has a list of schools who are keen to be involved and will be getting in touch. Dr Melanie Adkins, the new Principal Education Psychologist for Hillingdon will also support this group. The aim of the group will be to come up with a Hillingdon schools guidance document and this will then be shared more widely with the group.

If anyone else wants to be involved, please feel free to get in touch with myself or Sarah or if you come across any good guidance/resources I am happy to share these with the wider group. In the meantime, some good guidance out there so far:

**1. Stonewall Guide (see attachment 3)**

**2.** [Information about our Trans Inclusion Schools Toolkit (brighton-hove.gov.uk)](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/families-children-and-learning/information-about-our-trans-inclusion-schools-toolkit)

**3.** [Safeguarding transgender children (farrer.co.uk)](https://www.farrer.co.uk/news-and-insights/safeguarding-transgender-children/#Part%20one%20of%20the%20podcast%20covers:) – a new podcast discussing supporting Trans children in schools and with a legal basis

**4. Arran Loutitt** – Senior Social Worker

Update on WWCSC (What works Children’s Social Care) Research project:

Hillingdon council are taking part in an ambitious evaluation of a new programme that provides **support to Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) in Schools through regular supervision sessions**. This is funded by What Works for Children’s Social Care, and builds on the innovative work of Bolton Council, who created this model of supervision to support DSLs in their crucial work. Arran Loutitt, a senior social worker from the Adolescent service, has been appointed to provide this supervision and will work alongside Hannah for 2 days per week (Mon & Tues).

Only secondary schools are involved at this stage. All Hillingdon secondary schools have been randomly sorted into two groups (by an independent evaluator) with one group receiving supervision (this will be monthly for individual schools but in a group supervision format open to the whole safeguarding team in the school) and the other group continuing without it as usual. Data from both groups will be compared to show what, if any, difference supervision makes to DSLs.This is being evaluated independently to assess its impact.

All secondary schools involved in the project have now been contacted by Arran. If you are a secondary school who has not been appointed to receive this, you are in the control group, you don’t need to do anything differently at this stage however, please know you are still critical to generating an impact of the programme. We will be asking you as DSLs to undertake two short surveys this month (you should have received the first) and at the end of the year as part of the project. We kindly request that you please do this for us. We know that KCSIE has been indicating that supervision for DSLs is something that may come into statutory guidance in the coming years. We are keen to use this project to see what really works for you on the ground and to be able to take this forward in the best way possible for **ALL DSLs** in the future.

**Thank you for your involvement in this high-profile, nationwide project**. We are excited to see where this leads and will keep you all updated.

**5. Laura Baldry** - Vulnerable Learners Support Manager

School Placement & Admissions Team

Updates on Hillingdon’s Elective Home Education (EHE) process

**Presentation see attachment 4**

Leap is Hillingdon new one stop shop for Education advice and support includes guidance and referral forms for EHE and CME. Please have a look [here.](https://leap.hillingdon.gov.uk/)

**6. Other LA updates**

* **Dr Melanie Adkins – New Educational Principal Psychologist for Hillingdon**

Melanie is taking over from Phil Stock. Melanie is fulltime (Phil wasn’t) – so she is looking forward to making links across all aspects of service.

Mel is happy to take queries and suggestions from schools.

Some schools buy into the traded service offered by Hillingdon and these schools will have a linked Education Psychologist.

However, **ALL schools** can access support for Critical Incidents. A critical incident is when a child or member of staff has been directly impacted by something traumatic for example a death of a child or staff member. A critical incident would usually require an immediate response. In this case Hillingdon EP service can offer same day advice and support especially to the headteacher and often to staff in how to support students. In some cases they may also offer immediate support to students however, wouldn’t offer long term support, they would assist in signposting regarding this.

A sad incident would be where the community of the school is directly impacted but not regarding a student or staff member. For example if a students parent died. This may still require a prompt response but not as critical as the above. In this case Melanie’s team still happy to discuss with schools and see what support can be offered, even if not a traded school.

Email: MAdkins@hillingdon.gov.uk

* **DBS letter:**

Just a reminder that schools should not ask Hillingdon Council employees for a copy of their DBS. If employees are members of the Children’s workforce they will have appropriate checks completed by Hillingdon. The employee should just be asked to show their council photo ID badge. Please see letter from Hillingdon council for schools to keep on record.

**See attachment 5**

* **Updates from Safer School Police Sergeant – Allyson Keith:**

Some schools have advised that young people have been re-enacting online games that have come from TV programmes such Squid games which carry a rating of 15+ and involve high levels of violence, sex and scenes of suicide. See further information here [Safeguarding Update: Squid Game - Ineqe Safeguarding Group](https://ineqe.com/2021/10/08/squid-game/?utm_campaign=Squid%20Game&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=168499925&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--KdA3O_jss8McJ-8IhzOrFvyTHFjjNuHiMsda67uk461ZeIB0cKbU4OA_7XvtZIdGtM4QflaSE9lOUB-NNm38ivi7N5RztK03ppvJPw0uSHhknGV8)

Allyson has also been made aware of a London wide ‘squid games’ being advertised on social media such as snapchat and young people being told to sent money to a random bank account to take part in challenges that involve fighting and violence. Concern here about young people potentially being frauded as well as involved exposed/led into violence.

If you are seeing this in your school please feel free to take advice from Hannah or Allyson: Allyson.Keith@met.police.uk

In general the advice is not to alert children, young people or parents to specific games/programmes as this may peak interest.

[Parents – scare or prepare? – SafeBlog from LGfL DigiSafe](https://safeblog.lgfl.net/2018/11/parents-scare-or-prepare/)

However, it is vital for schools to be having ongoing conversations with students and parents about how to keep themselves safe online and be in control of what they access.

[There’s a viral scare online. What should I do? (thinkuknow.co.uk)](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/theres-a-viral-scare-online-what-should-i-do/)

[Top tips for seeing something scary or upsetting online - Own It - BBC](https://www.bbc.com/ownit/its-personal/when-you-see-something-scary-online)

Don't be afraid to adapt your PSHE programme to deal with issues like this as they arise.  Have a look at this PSHE Association Accredited BBFC resource.
[**https://www.cbbfc.co.uk/resources/free-pshe-primary-school-lesson-plans**](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fanchoredschools.us19.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D9a552ffe384a364463d54e564%26id%3D8bb9e8e32a%26e%3D5f4a733490&data=04%7C01%7Chives%40hillingdon.gov.uk%7C6915f1a518304023f80708d9945d0f5a%7Caaacb679c38148fbb320f9d581ee948f%7C0%7C0%7C637703949689572268%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=cb4qR4LCe1ApNujhBdh5jxAhZWBCH77MXtqURSswpVw%3D&reserved=0)
This free **‘Let’s watch a film! Making choices about what to watch’** PSHE lesson plan from the British Board of Film Classification uses the context of films and film classification to explore decision-making, risk management and managing peer influence. They’ve been designed to help children to acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to manage their viewing, and equip them to choose what is right for them and steer clear of what is not.

* **Stella Anaxagorou – Domestic Abuse Lead for Schools**
* Encompass:

Majority of schools are registered with Encompass now and this continues to have a positive impact.

For any schools not yet registered there will be a FINAL virtual training session (all about Encompass followed by Domestic Abuse and safeguarding training) on the 9th November. Invitations have been sent to those schools currently waiting for training. If you have not received an invitation or would like to attend please email: sanaxagorou@hillingdon.gov.uk

* Staff training:

For schools who have previously had domestic abuse training, Stella will be providing re-fresher sessions to re-cap and provide additional information. These schools should have received an email from me Stella requesting feedback and suggest what would be useful to include in the re-fresher. If you have received the email please do complete the form.

Remember for any schools who would be interested in free staff training on Domestic Abuse please contact Stella.

* **Updates from the LADO – Rob Wratten:**

KCSIE has a new section relating to low level concerns. Schools should have a clear policy in place on how these are managed – this should include that staff know what they are and how to report them as well as the importance of doing so. Schools should ensure low level concerns are clearly recorded and followed up.

From a LADO point of view Rob is clear that the threshold has not changed. Schools should not feel they have to decide if a concern meets LADO threshold or not and should still make contact with Rob (or Hannah) to discuss concerns so together it can be decided whether the LADO threshold is met. If unsure please don’t hesitate to call/email.

Rob Wratten: Rwratten@hillingdon.gov.uk

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Hannah Ives: hives@hillingdon.gov.uk

Tel: 07753431285