

MEETING OF THE FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST SAFEGUARDING BOARD

Meeting No. 16

Date: Tuesday 20th June 2017
Venue: Aspire Academy
Time: 4.15pm

Present: Dr David Sanders (Chair)

Ms Nicola Anderson (Lead Case Worker, Deputy Safeguarding Lead, Unity Academy)
Ms Fiona Bate (SENCO and Leader of Student Services, Hodgson Academy)
Mr Simon Brennand (Senior Vice Principal, Unity Academy)
Ms Sue Burrows (Safeguarding Governor, Westcliff Primary School)
Mr Tim Craven (Designated Safeguarding Officer, Blackpool Sixth Form College)
Ms Alicia Gibbons (Acting Principal, Blackpool Gateway Academy)
Mr Chris McConnachie (Safeguarding Governor, Hodgson Academy)
Ms Wendy Middlemas (Safeguarding Director, Blackpool Sixth Form College)
Mr Neill Oldham (Director of Student Welfare, Child Protection and SENDCo, Aspire Academy)
Ms Gill Smith (Assistant Principal: Personal Development and Welfare, Montgomery High School)
Ms Amanda Stokes (Principal and Safeguarding Lead, Westcliff Primary School)
Ms Nicola Wheatley (Assistant Headteacher/SENCo, Mereside Primary School)
Ms Gail Yeadon (Deputy Principal and Safeguarding Lead, Blackpool Sixth Form College and Safeguarding Governor, Montgomery High School)

Mrs Kath Buddle (FCAT Governance Administrator – minutes)

Mr John Blackledge (Director of Community and Environmental Services, Blackpool Council – for part of the meeting)

Ms Lucy Fenucciu, and Ms Stephanie Rowe (CAMHS) – for part of the meeting

Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Mr W Greene, Ms L Knowles, Ms H Wood and Mr T Nicholson.

1. Preliminaries

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and especially John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services, Blackpool Council.

Introductions were made.

Apologies were noted.

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Update from John Blackledge (JB), Director of Community and Environmental Services

JB provided feedback on actions put in place to address the following concerns raised by students and staff at previous meetings.

3.1 Road safety issues

JB had met with staff at Aspire, Blackpool Sixth Form College, Montgomery and Unity to discuss road safety directly outside those settings. A way forward had been agreed for Unity with changes to the back of the academy and renewed road markings at the front planned.

Action

A proposal to address the issues at Montgomery was being developed and should be available to the academy before the end of the school year. The situation on All Hallows Road had been made worse by the closure of the Red Lion car park which meant that Montgomery parents were dropping off and picking up children on the road, causing more congestion in a very narrow space.

The problems outside Aspire and the Sixth Form College were the most difficult to address, primarily because part of the highway fell under the jurisdiction of Lancashire County Council (LCC) and part Blackpool Council. LCC were in the process of appointing two new officers to the transport team, one of which would be assigned to this area in July 2017. However, until then it was not possible to consider the joint traffic calming measures that would be needed. The position of the electrical substation just outside Aspire further complicated matters as did the volume of heavy goods vehicle (HGV) traffic coming out of Mowbray Drive and turning directly in front of Aspire. JB acknowledged that entering into dialogue with local businesses on Mowbray Drive would be necessary to reduce the impact of HGV traffic on road safety.

3.2 Safety in Blackpool Town Centre at night

JB explained that the Night Time Economic Working Group (NTEWG), a multi- agency team including the Police, Public Health, Blackpool Council and Blackpool Transport, had developed an action plan to address safety issues in the town centre after dark. Actions included allocating more policing to tackle drinking (including under-age drinking) and the use of Spice and other illegal drugs as well as improving signage and lighting in key areas. Community protection orders were being issued to people causing trouble in the town centre and these were being rigorously enforced, with 42 people in the system currently. JB reported that the number of incidents of disturbance caused by young people had reduced significantly over the last few months.

JB agreed to forward the NTEWG action plan to the Clerk for circulation round the Group.

JB/Clerk

3.3 Safety in public places across the town

JB reported that the local authority was in contact with the family group interested in taking over the management of the Sports Barn, about how to properly manage the venue and ensure safety of children and young people using it. This was one of the facilities identified by students as a venue where they did not feel safe. Repairs to the surface had been carried out following some incidents of vandalism.

There had been some vandalism at Stanley Park too which the Council was aware of, though there had been no reports of bullying there. A significant amount of money had been invested in the flood lighting and courts at the Park which is where most young people met. However, it had been decided not to light other areas of the Park as this was likely to attract more young people and potentially put them at greater risk whilst in the park.

The Chair thanked JB for the work carried out so far and for providing feedback on these and he left the meeting.

The Group discussed how best to feed back developments to students and the Clerk was asked to prepare a briefing for circulation.

Clerk

Lucy Fenucciu (LF), and Stephanie Rowe (SR) from CAMHS joined the meeting for the next item.

4. Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

The Group raised a number of concerns with Blackpool CAMHS staff about referrals to the service.

In response to a question about the boundaries in terms of accessing CAMHS, LF confirmed that referrals were based on geographical location of the young person's GP, and that a similar service to that in Blackpool was also provided across Fylde and Wyre. At the moment CAMHS only provided for children and young people up to the age of 16. However, Youth Therapy, a highly regarded counselling service, catered for 11 – 25 year olds across the Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde areas. Referrals to Youth Therapy could be made directly and the service also provided drop in sessions every Wednesday after school for young people who did not want to make an appointment. Children and Adolescent Support and Help Early Response (CASHER) also provided resilience coaching and early intervention.

A number of initiatives aimed at increasing capacity within mental health services were also in place including a pilot for a self harm pathway which would eventually be rolled out across secondary schools.

In response to a question about training for school/college staff on mental health issues, LF and SR confirmed that there was an opportunity to provide more 'train the trainers' sessions on specific issues including suicide prevention, and offered to deliver an INSET session on self harm to interested organisations. In response to a concern that staff might be worried about saying the wrong thing to a young person who might be suicidal, LF reassured the Group that whatever staff could do or say to support their pupils would be a positive step forward in those circumstances.

In response to a question about the waiting time for referrals, SR acknowledged that this was still above 8 weeks but explained that the service was working hard to reduce it to a more acceptable 4-6 weeks, hence the reason for signposting to other agencies which might provide more appropriate support initially.

Asked about the generally accepted principle that children and young people who did not turn up to appointments seemed to be moved down the waiting list, LF explained that anyone accessing any of the mental health services had to want to do so otherwise the services provided would be ineffective. Services did try to be flexible in what they offered to address very individual issues but the young person had to decide themselves whether or not it was the right time for them to access the services available.

In response to a question about further support that schools and the College could provide for those children and young people accessing CAMHS, LF agreed, in future, to contact the organisation concerned to confirm that a referral had been made and provide guidance on the most appropriate support that could be provided following the referral.

Asked about how the service supported children with chaotic lives, LF confirmed that parental consent was required for a referral to CAMHS but that young people could self refer to Youth Therapy and other agencies. LF and SR worked with young people to identify the most appropriate service for their individual need.

	<u>Action</u>
<p>Asked if young people over the age of 16 could self refer to mental health services, LF replied that she was not sure of the procedure in this case. Post 16 year olds would need to access adult mental health services.</p>	
<p>LF and SR offered their support to schools on any mental health issues and, acknowledged that managing academic stress was a key factor in maintaining mental wellbeing. Following the discussion, it was agreed that staff would contact LF and SR on an individual basis as required and the Clerk was asked to circulate their contact details.</p>	Clerk
<p><i>The Chair thanked LF and SR for their time and responses to questions and they left the meeting.</i></p>	
<p>5. Minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2017 and matters arising</p>	
<p>The minutes of the meeting were approved. The following matters were noted:</p>	
<p>5.1 Safeguarding e-learning programme (Item 4) – (although not discussed at the meeting, the feedback from the FCAT HR Team is for individual FCAT academies to make their own decisions about how they provide safeguarding training over the next year. Some had decided to purchase Hays’ online safeguarding training programme (demonstrated at the previous meeting), others had chosen not to.</p>	
<p>5.2 Sales of e-cigarettes to under age children (Item 6b) – confirmation that a letter raising concern about the matter was sent to Blackpool Council Trading Standards on 9th June 2017 but a response had not yet been received. The Chair asked for a follow up letter to be forwarded on.</p>	Chair/Clerk
<p>5.3 Invitation to Lead Nurse on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (Item 7.2) – the Clerk confirmed that Lisa Lonsdale had been invited to attend the first meeting of the next academic year on 12th October 2017.</p>	
<p>5.4 FCAT Safeguarding Risk Register (Item 8) – SB and WG had agreed to meet to review and revise the Risk Register and feed back to the next meeting.</p>	SB/WG/ Clerk (agenda)
<p>6. FCAT Safeguarding Policy</p>	
<p>The Group reviewed and approved the revised FCAT Safeguarding Policy (Paper 6) with the following changes:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-word paragraph 5.3 to say that staff, volunteers and trainees are required to have safeguarding induction, rather than Level 1 Safeguarding training, and sign that they have read appropriate documents. • Strengthen paragraph 5.10 and provide a list of appropriate responses for staff, volunteers and trainees in respect of safeguarding issues in an appendix. • Change the name of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for Blackpool Council to Peter Charlesworth (from Amanda Quirke). • Update contacts in Appendix B. 	
<p>The Clerk agreed to make the changes and obtain authorisation from the Chair prior to taking the Policy to the FCAT Directors meeting on 20th July 2017 for final approval. The final document would be circulated to Safeguarding Leads as early as possible after then to inform safeguarding training.</p>	Clerk
<p>7. Barclay’s Project</p>	
<p>The Chair reported that he, NO and the Head of Drama at Aspire Academy had met with Barclay’s to discuss the potential to develop a CD on key safeguarding issues for use in schools. The FCAT Board of Directors had been supportive of the development, in principle, but had asked for more information about the</p>	

	<u>Action</u>
<p>content and costs. Representatives from Unity and Montgomery had agreed to participate in the project. NW from Mereside also expressed an interest in being involved from the primary perspective.</p>	
<p>Following a brief discussion, the Group agreed raising awareness amongst young people about the extent of grooming and their understanding of when they might be putting themselves in danger, and the implications of sexting as topics for the CD. Both of these had been identified by students themselves as issues of concern.</p>	
<p>NO agreed to co-ordinate the project and to schedule the next meeting with staff members concerned before the end of term with a view to developing scripts by early September 2017. The Chair would report back developments to Barclays.</p>	NO/ Chair
<p>8. Safeguarding software SB led a discussion on the potential to implement common safeguarding monitoring software across all FCAT academies. There was some dispute about whether or not primary schools needed to have the same level of monitoring as secondary schools but all agreed the importance of ensuring that data could be transferred across from one system to another at transition. SB confirmed that 'CPOMs' was the leading software company at the moment though there was no FCAT wide directive for schools to take this on. Some schools had already purchased their own systems. GY reported that The Blackpool Sixth Form College was using 'My Concern'.</p>	
<p>The Chair reported that the Blackpool Safeguarding Children Board was in the process of developing a platform on which to import data from a number of agencies, including from schools and health and social care services, and that, in time, there was the potential for this to supersede existing individual systems.</p>	
<p>9. Recent Safeguarding Case Study The Board considered a case study provided by one of the partner organisations which highlighted the problems in accessing support for young people coming to Blackpool from outside the Local Authority area and the limited response from the originating local authority in helping to address the matter. The Chair agreed to raise the issue with the Director of Children's Services at Blackpool Council. WM agreed to write to the other authority involved in the case to raise concern about the way in which the matter had been handled.</p>	Chair/WM
<p>10. Report to FCAT Directors The Group approved the second report of the year to FCAT Directors (Paper 9) with a minor change to the bullet on FGM.</p>	
<p>11. Regional/Local Developments The Chair reported that implementation of the outcomes from the Wood Review of Local Safeguarding Children Boards had been slightly delayed and would probably start with pilots in January 2018 and a full roll out by July 2018.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of the Shadow Board of the Blackpool Safeguarding Children's Board held on 6th June 2017 (Paper 10.1) were noted. NA highlighted the presentation on substance misuse support from Horizon and the changes to early help thresholds and documentation for this, as key matters.</p>	
<p>12. E-safety updates The two e-safety updates from Aspire Academy (Papers 11.1 and 11.2) were noted.</p>	

Action

13. Dates of meetings for 2017-2018

The dates of meetings and venues for next year (Paper 12) were noted.

14. New Risks

The Group asked that the scoring on the following risks be reviewed to ensure they were still appropriate:

- Mental health issues for children and young people and the pressures on services to provide adequate and appropriate support.
- The capacity of external agencies, including Health and Social Care, to provide support for children and young people.

15. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 12th October 2017 at 4.15pm
Mersey Primary School

Signed: _____(Chair)

Date: _____