

# Bedford Borough Safeguarding Children Partnership (BBSCP) Strategic Plan 2025 – 2027

This Strategic Plan sets out the BBSCP shared vision and themes that will help keep children, young people and their families at risk safe and protected from abuse and neglect. Excellent practice is the norm. Partners work collaboratively to achieve the same end goals. Partner agencies hold one another to account effectively. There is early identification of 'new' safeguarding issues. Learning is promoted and embedded. Information is shared effectively. Communities in Bedford Borough feel confident that children, young people and their families are protected from harm. BBSCP has agreed the following priorities and focus to direct its work for 2024 – 2026:

Safeguarding children and young people via **our priorities** of strong leadership with our Partners, effective learning from our Case Reviews, back to basic training and effective assessments.

**Key Areas of Focus:** Neglect - Child Sexual Abuse – Child Exploitation - Mental Health and Wellbeing

**Priorities' and focus areas will be addressed via the following**

**Neglect** – Pan Beds Neglect Group and theme for the Strategic Board October 2025

**Cost of Living** – Golden thread

**Early Help** – BBSCP/Pan Beds work streams /assurance reports.

**Children impacted by domestic abuse** - Pan Beds Strategic Leaders for DA, Bedford Borough Community Safety Partnership and Local DA Board and assurance reports.

**Information sharing** – Golden thread

**Contextual Safeguarding, Child Exploitation and Missing** – Pan Beds Exploitation and Missing Strategic Group and assurance reports. theme for the BBSCP Strategic Board July 2025

**Disproportionality** - Golden thread.

**Mutuality of partnership with families** - Golden thread

**Co production with children, young people and their families** - Golden thread

**The voice & engagement of frontline practitioners** - Golden thread

**Safeguarding Education** - Pan Beds Safeguarding Education Group and theme for the BBSCP Strategic Board April 2025

**Male Violence Against Women and Girls** – assurance reports.

**Transitional Safeguarding** – Golden thread

**Policy and procedures** – Pan Beds Policy and Procedures Group

**Emotional wellbeing& mental health** – Bedfordshire children and young people MH & EWB Network, assurance reports and golden thread

**Audit, Reviews, Learning, Development & Training** - BBSCP Case Review Group, Pan Beds Assurance and Development Group, assurance reports and golden thread

**SEND** – theme for the BBSCP Strategic Board January 2025 .

**Independent scrutiny** – Throughout this plan, structures, BBSCP Yearly Impact Report and golden thread

**Workforce capacity** – Golden thread

**Links to other Partnerships, their action plans & strategies which are developed, in place & monitored** - Golden thread

Key Focus	Actions to be agreed	Evidence of Impact
<b>Neglect:</b> The risks around neglect will be well understood and practice guidance will support best practice to ensure better outcomes for children. To increase the use of the Graded Care Profile 2 and other neglect tools.	Multi agency and/or individual agency audits On-going development of a Neglect Dataset Training, Briefings, workshops, webinars Work to raise awareness and increase the number of GCP2's. Raising Awareness of neglect Neglect Campaigns Assurance reports Voice/lived experiences of children/young people.	Performance Dashboard Increased number of GCP2's Increased number of GCP2 Trainers Multi agency and/or individual agency audit findings Evaluations of training and learning events Feedback from awareness raising activities and communications
<b>Child Sexual Abuse:</b> Increase awareness of CSA, ensure appropriate training is available, appropriate guidance is in place and staff feel more confident to work with young people and families affected by CSA.	Multi agency and/or individual agency audits Review of procedures and guidance Training, briefings, workshops and webinars Assurance Reports Implementation of the NSPCC Child Sexual Abuse snapshot project. Voice/lived experiences of children/young people.	Performance Dashboard Multi agency and/or individual agency audit findings Evaluations - training and learning events Feedback from awareness raising activities and communications Child Sexual Abuse snapshot evaluation
<b>Child Exploitation:</b> Children, young people, practitioners, parents, carers, and the public are aware of different types of exploitation. Children and young people at risk of exploitation are identified, assessed and effectively supported. Perpetrators of exploitation are pursued, their activity disrupted.	Multi agency and/or individual agency audits Review of procedures and guidance Training, briefings, workshops and webinars Assurance Reports Voice/lived experiences of children/young people. Communication strategy and activity	Performance Dashboard Multi agency and/or individual agency audit findings Evaluations of training and learning events Feedback from awareness raising activities and communications.
<b>Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing:</b> Increased understanding of the risks to children and young people in relation to mental health and identify any gaps in service provision.	Multi agency and/or individual agency audits Performance Monitoring Assurance reports Training & Briefings, workshops and webinars Voice/lived experiences of children/young people.	Performance Dashboard Public Health school survey & action plan Multi-agency and/or individual agency audit findings Feedback - training/learning events

All of the above supported via the [Safeguarding Bedfordshire website](#)