

# CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS PLAN 2025-26

## Key Functions of Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership:

- Develop policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Central Bedfordshire.
- Communicate to people within Central Bedfordshire, the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so.
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advise them on ways to improve.
- Participate in the planning of services for children in Central Bedfordshire.
- Undertake Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and advise partners on lessons to be learned.

## Priorities:

- Establishing Strong Leadership with our Partners
- Effectively learning from our Case Reviews
- Back to basics training
- Effective Assessments

## Key Areas of Focus:

- Neglect
- Child Sexual Abuse
- Exploitation
- Mental Health and Wellbeing

## Golden Threads:

- Communications – how do we talk about safeguarding.
- Information Sharing
- Voice of the Child
- Transitions
- Early Help
- Good Quality Assessments
- Learning from our Case Reviews

## Key Areas of Focus

## Possible Actions

## Evidence of Impact

**Neglect:** The risks around neglect will be well understood and practice guidance will support best practice to ensure better outcomes for children.

**Key Activity** – To increase the use of the Graded Care Profile 2 and other neglect tools.

- Possible 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 of the child feedback

- Performance Dashboard
- Increased number of GCP2's
- Increased number of GCP2 Trainers
- Audit findings
- Evaluations of training and learning events
- Feedback from awareness activities/communications

**Child Sexual Abuse:** 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.

- Possible Audits
- Review of procedures and guidance
- Training, briefings, workshops and webinars
- Assurance Reports
- Implementation of the NSPCC CSA Snapshot Project.
- Voice of the child feedback

- Performance Dashboard
- Audit findings
- Evaluations of training and learning events
- Feedback from awareness activities/communications
- CSA Snapshot Evaluation

**Exploitation:** Young people, practitioners, parents/carers, and the public are aware of different types of exploitation. Children at risk of exploitation are identified, assessed and effectively supported. Perpetrators of exploitation are pursued, and activity is disrupted.

- Possible Audits
- Performance Monitoring
- Assurance reports
- Training & Briefings, workshops and webinars
- Voice of the child feedback
- Awareness Campaigns

- Performance Dashboard
- Monitoring that children who are absent, missing from education, home and care are identified, assessed, & effectively supported.
- Exploitation Annual Report
- Children Missing from Education Annual Report
- Number of awareness raising activities completed.

**Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing:** Increased understanding of the risks to young people in relation to mental health and identify any gaps in service provision.

- Possible Audits
- Performance Monitoring
- Assurance reports
- Training & Briefings, workshops and webinars
- Voice of the child feedback

- Performance Dashboard
- SHEU Survey & Action Plan
- Audit Findings
- Feedback and evaluations from training and learning events