

# Walsall Safeguarding Partnership Safeguarding Spotlight

5 July 2024



Right for Children, Families and Adults

# WSP Priorities 2023 - 2025:

- Child Neglect
- Child Sexual Abuse
- All-Age Exploitation
- Self-Neglect and Hoarding



# Exploitation

NSPCC Learning has published a blog as part of the Why language matters series on why it's important for professionals to consider the language they use when talking about child criminal exploitation. The blog explores how the terms 'recruited' and 'working' minimise children's experiences of criminal exploitation. It also discusses how professionals can approach the topic of criminal exploitation with other professionals and the children they work with.

Read the blog post: [Why language matters: how using terms like 'recruited' and 'working' minimise children's experiences of criminal exploitation](#)

## Key points

- Terms like 'working' and 'recruited' can minimise the exploitation a child or young person is experiencing and hide the true nature of the abuse and harm.
- Children may not be aware that they are experiencing criminal exploitation and may not relate to or engage with the language professionals use. Use language that children are comfortable with. This can help them to talk about their experiences and help you clearly communicate concerns.
- Move away from terminology used by people who exploit children and use language that focuses on the harm the child has experienced. This can help everyone working with the child discuss and identify the right level of support needed.

Why language  
matters >

improving  
safeguarding and  
child protection  
practice with words



# Working Together 2023 & Families First for Children

WSP are working closely with our partners leading the DfE Pathfinder 'Families First for Children' programme in order to develop our partnership links with Education Providers (a requirement of Working Together 2023).

Last month we've visited colleagues in the Walsall Association of Secondary Heads, Designated Safeguarding Leads Workshop, Walsall Learning Alliance and Special Heads Forum as we develop our plans. Next steps are to engage with those in the Early Years, Maintained Nurseries Forum, Primary Nursery and Special Forum and Further Education Sector. The Safeguarding Partnership will be establishing an Education Subgroup and are keen to hear from Heads/Deputy Heads, Nursery Managers, Further Education Heads who are interested in joining this forum.



Read the full [newsletter](#)

For further information or a conversation please contact Sian Jones,  
Head of Safeguarding Partnership: [sian.jones@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:sian.jones@walsall.gov.uk) 01922 652867

June 2024

## Families First for Children

### Pathfinder programme update

**What's new?**  
It's been another busy month as the Families First for Children programme shapes up.  
A number of roles have been recruited to, we've submitted our delivery plan to the Department for Education, and established our multi-agency workshops.

**Delivery plan update**  
This month, the team have submitted a delivery plan to the Department for Education, for final review and approval.  
We're hoping this will be signed off by the end of June 2024, which will in turn mean the programme commences from 1 July 2024.

**Big Conversation**  
Recently, our Big Conversation survey was sent out to over 500 families in the borough.  
We want our families to give initial feedback on their views and experiences of the help and support they have received from us and our services.  
The survey will close on **Friday 21 June 2024**.  
Once collated, the headline findings will be analysed and reported back in the next edition of the Families First for Children newsletter.

# Reducing / Preventing Violence, ASB & Risk of Exploitation

The summer period can be a challenging time for many children and young people, especially those who are vulnerable, at risk, or living in areas with high levels of youth anti-social behaviour (ASB) and violence.

The Community Safety Partnership has been collaborating with partners to identify the needs and gaps in the current provision of summer activities and services, and to develop a coordinated plan to address them.

The aim is to maximise the resources and opportunities available to support and engage these children and young people, and to reduce the risk and occurrence of ASB, violence, and criminal exploitation during the summer months.

Mentoring providers have a vital role in achieve this goal as we know mentoring can be a very effective way of engaging our most vulnerable children/young people and enabling them to engage in positive activities, while diverting them away from any risk or vulnerabilities.

Please consider any children and young people who you believe would benefit from this additional mentoring support over the summer period.

***Consent from the child and their parent/carer is needed for all referrals.***

The referral form will be used to match children/young people to the “best fit” mentoring provider.

[Referral Form - Reducing/Preventing Violence, ASB & Risk of Exploitation - Summer 2024](#)

Partnership

NEWS





# Family Hubs information

Walsall Family Hubs | Supporting families to live happier lives



## Come and Celebrate Walsall Family Hubs 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday!

In partnership with Arts Connect and National Literacy Trust

Come along and join the celebration of Walsall Family Hubs throughout July and August  
All our events are free and no booking required just turn up.

### Activities on the day include:

- Teddy bears picnic
- Story telling sessions
- Craft and messy activities
- Plus much more...



Come and join us at:

- 20<sup>th</sup> July 10am – 2pm : Central & South Family Hub, Birchills Street, Walsall, WS2 8NF
- 1<sup>st</sup> August 10am -12pm: Brownhills Community Centre, Chester Road North, Brownhills, WS8 7JS and Hollands park
- 14<sup>th</sup> August 11am – 2pm: North Family Hub, 275 Blakenall Lane, Blakenall, Walsall WS3 1HJ
- 29<sup>th</sup> August 10am – 12pm: West Family Hub, Ilmington House, Crescent Road, WS10 8AE



In partnership with



To keep up to date with whats going on by following our Facebook Page  
@Walsallfamiliesintheknow or email [familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk)

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## North Family Hub Sensory Room

Did you know you can book to use our sensory room for one hour for **FREE**.

You can have exclusive use of the room or why not bring a friend along.

You will have use of: Bubble Tube, Sensory lights, Light box and more

To check for room availability and book a place pleas



or call 01922 654589

or visit us at

North Family Hub, 275 Blakenall Lane, Blakenall, Walsall WS3 1HJ

And find out what else we offer in your local Family Hub

To keep up to date with whats going on by following our Facebook Page

@Walsallfamiliesintheknow or email [familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk)



If you have any questions, please email the Family Hubs Transformation team:  
[family.hubs@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:family.hubs@walsall.gov.uk)

<https://www.walsallfamilyhubs.co.uk/>

Supporting families to live happier lives

## 0-2 YEARS PARENT & TODDLER WELLBEING PLAY AND STAY SESSIONS

**THURSDAYS 9:30AM – 11:30AM**

HAVE FUN WITH THE LITTLE ONES AND ENJOY SOME CHAT TIME  
WITH FELLOW PARENTS & GUARDIANS. TOYS & GAMES AND  
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

**NORTH LOCALITY FAMILY HUB**  
275 BLAKENALL LANE,  
BLAKENALL, WALSALL WS3 1HJ

**20 TH JUNE**  
27TH JUNE – FATHERS/MALES  
4TH JULY

**S&C LOCALITY FAMILY HUB**  
BIRCHILLS STREET,  
WALSALL, WS2 8NF

**5TH SEPTEMBER**  
12TH SEPTEMBER  
19TH SEPTEMBER – FATHERS/MALES  
26TH SEPTEMBER  
3RD OCTOBER  
10TH OCTOBER  
17TH OCTOBER  
24TH OCTOBER – FATHERS/MALES

**BOOKING REQUIRED**

E-MAIL - [REFERRALS@THEMINDKINDPROJECTS.COM](mailto:REFERRALS@THEMINDKINDPROJECTS.COM)  
CALL - 01922 632170

## Introduction to Solid Foods

If you would like more information on how to introduce solid foods to your baby, then join us at one of the Local Family HUBS.

A member of the Infant Feeding service will be available to answer your questions and support you through this exciting stage in your baby's feeding journey.

**Tuesday 12 March 9.30am - 11.30am**  
North Family Hub 275 Blakenall Lane, Blakenall, Walsall, WS3 1HJ

**Tuesday 9 April 1pm - 3pm**  
West Family Hub Ilmington House, Crescent Road, Wednesbury, WS10 8AE

**Tuesday 14 May 9.30am - 11.30am**  
East Family Hub Silver Court, Walsall, WS8 6HA

**Tuesday 11 June 9.30am - 11.30am**  
Nash Dorn, Community Hub - Sun Street, Walsall, WS1 4AL

**Tuesday 9 July 1pm**  
North Family Hub, 275 Blakenall Lane, Blakenall, Walsall, WS3 1HJ

**Monday 12 August 9.30am**  
West Family Hub, Ilmington House, Crescent Road, Darlaston, WS10 8AE

**Tuesday 10 September 1pm**  
Fullbrook Nursery, 3 Walsstead Road West, Walsall, WS5 4BX

**Tuesday 8 October 1pm**  
Brownhills Community Association, Chester Road North, Brownhills, WS8 7JS

**Tuesday 12 November 1pm**  
North Family Hub, 275 Blakenall Lane, Blakenall, Walsall, WS3 1HJ

**Tuesday 10 December 9.30am**  
West Family Hub Ilmington House, Crescent Road, Darlaston, WS10 8AE

To book your place, please email:  
[familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk)

To deliver exceptional care together to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities

Supporting families to live happier lives

## Dads Saturday Stay and Plays at Walsall Family Hubs

**July – September 2024**

Dads Stay & Play is an opportunity for dads to turn up with their children to play together and have fun together. No need to book just turn up.  
The stay and play starts from 10:00- 12:00

**6<sup>th</sup> July @ North Family Hub**, 275 Blakenall Lane, Blakenall, Walsall WS3 1HJ

**13<sup>th</sup> July @ West Family Hub**, Ilmington House, Crescent Road, WS10 8AE

**20<sup>th</sup> July @ South & Central Family Hub**, Birchills Street, Walsall, WS2 8NF

**3<sup>rd</sup> August @ North Family Hub**, 275 Blakenall Lane, Blakenall, Walsall WS3 1HJ

**10 August @ West Family Hub**, Ilmington House, Crescent Road, WS10 8AE

**17 August @ South & Central Family Hub**, Birchills Street, Walsall, WS2 8NF

**24 August @ East Family Hub**, Silver Court, Walsall, WS8 6HA

**31<sup>st</sup> August @ West Family Hub**, Ilmington House, Crescent Road, WS10 8AE

**14<sup>th</sup> September @ West Family Hub**, Ilmington House, Crescent Road, WS10 8AE

**21<sup>st</sup> September @ South & Central Family Hub**, Birchills Street, Walsall, WS2 8NF

**28<sup>th</sup> September @ East Family Hub**, Silver Court, Walsall, WS8 6HA

To keep up to date with whats going on by following our Facebook Page  
@Walsallfamiliesintheknow or email [familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk)

Funded by UK Government

# SALT - Speech and Language Therapy

Walsall SALT are offering virtual drop-in sessions for families to discuss any concerns around their child's speech and language development.

Thursday 18 July 2024

To book a virtual drop-in appointment please email: [walsall.stl@nhs.net](mailto:walsall.stl@nhs.net)

**Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust**

## Speech & Language Therapy

### Virtual drop-in advice sessions

#### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Do you have questions about your child's speech or language development?

Are you worried that your child is not talking or does not understand you?

Would you like some advice on general strategies to help?

If you're worried about your child's communication skills and your child is not already known to our service, you are welcome to book a call-back for advice and support.

To book a virtual session please email [walsall.stl@nhs.net](mailto:walsall.stl@nhs.net) and ask for a 'virtual drop-in appointment'. Please include the following in your email;

- Your child's name, date of birth and GP surgery
- Whether you would prefer a video or telephone call
- Your telephone number and email address
- Whether you would prefer morning or afternoon, and if there are any times of the day you can't receive a call back.

**Walsall Family Hubs**  
Supporting families to live happier lives

Tel: 01922 805400

To deliver exceptional care together to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities



# Alcohol Awareness Week 1 - 7 July 2024

Join us to raise awareness of the harm caused by alcohol and to learn more about the role that alcohol plays in our society.

Alcohol Awareness Week aims to educate others about the impact alcohol can have on health and wellbeing and promoting healthy drinking habits.

Public Health works with The Beacon (provided by Change Grow Live) that offers free and confidential support for young people and adults in Walsall who misuse alcohol or drugs. They also support friends, families, and carers affected by other people's substance misuse.

Other services are available for residents to access for support with alcohol including SMART Recovery sessions (provided by The Beacon).

- Help with drugs and alcohol - Walsall - [Change Grow Live](#)
- Alcohol Awareness Week | [Alcohol Change UK](#)

# Training Opportunities

- WSP Learning Management System (LMS)
  - ❖ [Walsall Safeguarding - Learning Management System \(event-booking.org.uk\)](http://event-booking.org.uk)
  - ❖ [Delegate Registration \(event-booking.org.uk/register\)](http://event-booking.org.uk/register)
  - ❖ [Terms & Conditions - including cancellation charges](#)
  
- [Places available to book: WSP - July & August \(virtual and face-to-face\)](#)
- [Places available to book: Other - July & August \(virtual and face-to-face\)](#)
- [Phoenix Psychology training sessions](#)
- [VRP training dates](#)
  
- [WSP eLearning](#)
  
- Learning from [Adult Reviews, Audits, Webinars, Briefings](#)
- Learning from [Child Reviews, Audits, Webinars, Briefings](#)



# Places available on WSP Training in July & August 2024

- ❖ [Understanding Neglect Level 2](#): 3 July
- ❖ [Supporting Families Coordinator Training \(Lead Professional\)](#): 5 July
- ❖ [Outcome Star Training](#): 8 July
- ❖ [Right Help Right Time - Full Training](#): 11 July
- ❖ [Reducing Parental Conflict Awareness Training Level 1](#): 7 August

# Places available on other training in July & August 2024

## Centre of Expertise

- ❖ [Putting the Child Sexual Abuse Response Pathway into practice](#): 3 July
- ❖ [Spotting the signs and indicators of child sexual abuse](#): 16 July

## Birmingham Mind

- ❖ [Walsall Mental Health & Suicide Prevention](#): 1 July
- ❖ [Walsall Mental Health & Suicide Prevention](#): 9 July
- ❖ [Walsall Mental Health & Suicide Prevention](#) - Train the Trainer: 10 July
- ❖ [Walsall Mental Health & Suicide Prevention](#) - Trainer Forum: 16 July
- ❖ [Walsall Mental Health & Suicide Prevention](#) - Train the Trainer: 1 August
- ❖ [Walsall Mental Health & Suicide Prevention](#): 6 August
- ❖ [Walsall Mental Health & Suicide Prevention](#): 21 August



# Phoenix Psychology training sessions



‘At Phoenix we strive to provide psychological thinking and interventions in line with our values to support those marginalised within our society, those who are exposed to psychological risks as part of their occupation, those who may struggle to access psychological services elsewhere and where we can support social change. Our ethos is to build relationships with services to provide excellence and integrate psychological thinking into all aspects of their organisation. We also provide a range of services tailored to meet the varied needs of individuals with complex trauma presentations across the lifespan whether that be children and families with complex difficulties or adults who have experienced complex trauma.

We work collaboratively with schools, community groups, solicitors, the voluntary sector, local authorities, independent foster care organisations, residential homes, health services and other statutory and non-statutory organisations.

Phoenix Psychology is an independent psychological service based in Midlands. We have worked alongside Health and Social Care Services for many years supporting services to embed psychological thinking both to support their clients and their staff. The Violence Reduction Partnership has partnered with Phoenix Psychology since 2021’.

- Formulation and Risk Assessment: [3 July](#), [18 July](#)
- Working with children and young people who have a complex trauma history: [9 July](#), [27 August](#)
- Understanding Neurodiversity in the context of Exploitation and Serious Youth Violence: [7 August](#), [23 August](#)
- Low Intensity CBT Interventions: [23 July](#), [14 August](#)

**Places are limited**

If you have any questions, please contact: [jasmine.omeara@westmidlands.police.uk](mailto:jasmine.omeara@westmidlands.police.uk)  
VRP Assistant Delivery Manager

[Home - Phoenix Psychology](#)



# VRP Training Dates: June, July, August 2024



[West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership Events - Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

- ❖ An Introduction to Adverse Childhood Experiences  
2 July, 16 July, 30 July,  
13 August, 28 August
- ❖ An Introduction to Trauma Informed working in healthcare settings  
23 July
- ❖ Change Makers Programme  
26 July
- ❖ Ending Male Violence Against Women and Girls (EMVAWG)  
24 July, 29 August
- ❖ Exploitation Webinar  
8 July, 22 July,  
5 August, 19 August
- ❖ Mentors in Violence Prevention  
26 July
- ❖ Public Health Approach to Violence Prevention  
9 July, 23 July, 6 August, 20 August
- ❖ Serious Violence Duty Briefing  
19 July, 23 August
- ❖ Sport and Serious Violence Duty  
11 July, 19 August
- ❖ Trauma Informed Practice  
1 July, 15 July, 29 July, 12 August, 27 August
- ❖ Working with Trauma in Early Years  
25 July, 29 August

To register your place visit: [West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership Events - Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

The West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership offers a wide variety of training courses for professionals working throughout the West Midlands.

Each course has online dates available every month; but if you are interested in any of the courses for your team or organisation, you can also contact [vrp@westmidlands.police.uk](mailto:vrp@westmidlands.police.uk) to arrange a specific date to suit your needs which can be delivered either in person or online.



# WSP eLearning modules

Walsall Safeguarding Partnership also offers a variety of eLearning training courses:

Adults Safeguarding Awareness Level 1

Advocacy (Care Act) - external learning

Child Neglect Awareness - Level 1

Determining eligibility under the Care Act 2014 - external learning

Female Genital Mutilation: Recognising and Preventing (FGM) - external learning

ICON: 'Babies cry, you can cope'

Introduction to Safeguarding Children - Level 1

Personalisation - external learning

Private Fostering Module

Understanding Mental Capacity Act - Level 2

Understanding Safeguarding Children - Level 2

To find out more about the eLearning courses and how to book, please visit: <https://walsall.event-booking.org.uk/elearning-list>

# Thank you for taking the time to read the WSP Safeguarding Spotlight

If you would like an item to be featured in the next edition,  
please send your information through to:  
[Safeguardingbusinessunit@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:Safeguardingbusinessunit@walsall.gov.uk)


To receive the Spotlight and any news updates please subscribe to  
our website: [walsallsp.co.uk](http://walsallsp.co.uk)

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**Name\***

**Email\***

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