

Promoting the education of children with a social worker project

Newsletter January 2022

Number 1

Dear colleagues,

Following on from a successful first term working on our new project 'Promoting the education of children with a social worker' we thought we'd update you with our progress so far.

We're working with a number of schools across Luton who have children on child protection plans or children in need plans. We've summarised below some of the initiatives.

After school clubs in partnership with Active Luton

We're very pleased to say that Active Luton have developed partnerships with **Boxing Saves Lives, Next Generation Youth Theatre and Luton Football Club**, who all are willing to run clubs after school for our targeted group of children. The costs of these clubs is being covered by the funding for the project. The first of these clubs starts later this month.



Parenting classes in partnership with Luton Adult Learning

Working with our colleagues in [Luton Adult Learning](#) we're able to offer parenting classes to schools. These can cover a variety of areas including supporting an anxious child, managing behaviours, and establishing routines. The Virtual School can support colleagues in schools to develop a programme that can then be offered to parents. Any costs are met by the funding.

ELSA – Emotional Literacy Support Assistant

The ELSA project is an initiative which develops the capacity of schools to support the emotional needs of their pupils. ELSAs are learning, teaching or behaviour support assistants who've received additional training on aspects of emotional literacy. As part of our project, the Virtual School is covering the cost of the training for 15 primary schools to have their own ELSA trained member of staff.

Places are already booked for the summer term, but if your school is interested, please contact Jo Carter by email, on jo.carter@luton.gov.uk.



Digital technology

We're aware that some young people in our schools are still not able to access the digital world, and we're working with colleagues in schools to provide the right technology for them to complete online learning at home.

Tuition

Working with the young people themselves, we're able to provide a tuition package that meets their needs and supports them in areas that they feel less confident in.

The Virtual School has signed up to the [National Tuition Programme](#) (NTP), so that all tuition costs would be met by the NTP and the Virtual School.

'One to one tuition approaches can enable pupils to make effective progress by providing intensive, targeted academic support to those identified as having low prior attainment or at risk of falling behind.' Taken from [Education Endowment 2021](#).

If you have any pupils who have a social worker and would benefit from tuition, please Jo Carter.

Trauma training

Trauma in schools UK are booked to deliver 2 days of online training to safeguarding leads in June. Further details will be available shortly. Watch out for details in our next newsletter via email.

As part of this project we're working closely with our colleagues in social services. To support this, we're going to hold drop in sessions for social workers and educationalists to attend to discuss any education concerns they may have in regards to children with CIN or CP plans. Part of our role will be signposting to services and answering queries relating to education to ensure the best possible outcomes for our young people who have a social worker.

At our last designated teacher (DT) meeting on **9 February**, two of our social work managers talked to us about some of the procedures and ways of working with social services. The meeting was well attended by DTs and designated safeguarding leads. Further guidance on processes have been sent to attendees.

If your school has children with a social worker and you're interested in finding out more about any of the initiatives above, or would simply like to discuss your school and how we may be able to help you, please contact us on the numbers or email addresses below.

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