

Children Partnership Newsletter

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Early Help Strategy Networking Drop-In



Early Help Strategy

Solihull Safeguarding Children Partnership

The next Early Help Strategy Networking Drop-In is taking place on Wednesday 24th January 2024. This in-person event is a great opportunity to build relationships and collaborate with others in the field and familiarise yourself with the operation of the Early Help Strategy. The venue is located at Crabtree Hall, 34 Crabtree Dr, Fordbridge, Birmingham B37 5BU.

There are currently two timeslots, [12pm](#) and [1pm](#). Please click on the relevant timeslots to book your place. Please note, this event is for professionals only.

Marston Green Infant School let the community know they offer Early Help!

Hear from Nicola Roberts at Marston Green Infants Academy who wanted to share a good news story on how their school are offering Early Help - *"At Marston Green Infants Academy, we wanted to create an event to showcase support and services that are available in our local area, not only to our families but our local community too. Its amazing how much support is out there but often families do not know who to turn to when in need or even what support is available. The event would be an opportunity for different organisations to come along to showcase what they offer.*

Nicola started by teaming up with Liz Hopkins from Solihull Community Development team. Liz was working on updating the [My Solihull Map](#) which is a great starting point to see what services are available in the local area. Liz started creating a list of contacts she had and I started on a list of contacts that I had found. I often look in local charity shops to see what flyers are on display, and social media is a great tool too. The event would be called the Wellbeing Roadshow, with a theme of services whom offer advice around wellbeing, energy and mental health.

We decided to hold this during parents evening, we have found that creating an event is the easy part but getting the parents to attend is always an issue when it is after the school day. There has definitely been a decline in parental support and engagement in after school activities since Covid and for some families attending an event to gain support carries the stigma of needing help and families may be reluctant to ask for help. At least being during parents evening we already knew parents would be attending school so this would ensure parents feel less pressured.

We had 18 different organisations attend ranging from Action Energy, Colebridge Trust, Citizen Advice and Healthwatch to name a few. Tables were set up in the hall which parents would have to walk through and the event was advertised on our social media page as well posters in the local shops. We made the event open to all and after a conversation with some of the shop staff they also attended and gave positive feedback.

Over the evening there was a steady flow of parents and people from the local community. Feedback was well received from both professionals who were able to network and from parents whom enjoyed seeing the different services available. Even staff gathered useful information such as advice from Citizen Advice and British Red Cross who run free life saver courses.

One family were able to arrange an energy assessment through Action Energy to save money on their energy bills, another family signed up to Solihull Active to access special needs activities which they did not know were available. A number of local elderly residents gathered information on what Marston Green Lions offer to support the elderly. We have also teamed up with Marson Green Library and Solihull College to offer our parents a story sack course for free that will run In January. We have no space in school to offer this but it was great that the library could offer their space to use.

Overall the event was a great success and we will definitely be arranging another one in the spring term. A big thank you to Liz Hopkins from the Solihull Development team. I highly recommend contacting your local worker as they are a wealth of knowledge."

Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2023 has been published!

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023

A guide to multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children

December 2023

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 has been published. This is a guide to multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children. Within this [document](#), you will find details about the updates which have been implemented and published in December 2023.

Who's in Charge?

With Christmas and New Year celebrations coming up, we would like to highlight the 'Who's in Charge?' campaign developed by Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership. This campaign urges parents, and others with responsibility for children, to be aware of a range of potentially dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol while caring for children. There are a series of videos and posters available to promote this messaging.

These resources can be located [here](#).



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Solihull Safeguarding Children Partnership would like to thank you all for your hard work this year working together to keep children, young people, and families safe in Solihull. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to working with you all in 2024!



If you have any comments or suggestions for the SSCP Newsletter, please email:

sscp@solihull.gov.uk

For more useful information, advice and guidance, please

visit <https://www.safeguardingsolihull.org.uk/lscp/>

To access multi-agency training provided by the SSCP, please

visit <https://training.solihulllscp.co.uk/Learning-and-Development.aspx>



Solihull
Safeguarding
Children Partnership

**Listening, Learning and
Improving Outcomes for
Children and Young People**

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