



# SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

SAFEGUARDING EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

## Designated safeguarding Leads

Alison Bolton Gillian Hayes  
Charlotte Taylor Andrea Hickey

## Useful numbers

Childline 0800 1111  
Wigan Safeguarding Hub 01942 486262

# Knife Crime

## Eileen Monaghan, 51, Parent, Clydebank

Eileen Monaghan knows only too well the dangers and consequences of knife crime; her son Luke, then aged 24, was stabbed two years ago when he was out with his dad. Luke is now moving on from the incident, but having lived through the personal experience of her own child being stabbed, mother of one Eileen hopes that the No Knives, Better Lives campaign will make young people think twice before picking up a weapon. Eileen, a primary school teacher in Clydebank said: "The thought of knife crime and how those involved are so badly affected had never crossed my mind before that horrendous night. Unfortunately in society today, if it does not involve you directly you just don't think about it.

"My son and husband were enjoying a quiet drink, when the pub they were in was set-upon by an armed gang. Luke, who was outside the bar using his mobile at the time, was stabbed and my husband assaulted. I had arranged to pick them up and I remember as I saw the whole area awash with blue lights having a bad feeling that something horrible had happened. "As I made my way through the crowd I knew something was wrong, the shock in peoples' faces was evident, but nothing prepares for you to see your loved ones hurt or injured. I remember just being hysterical with worry." "So many emotions run through your head, shock, panic; emotions that I had never experienced before as the grave situation I faced started to sink in. We were told that Luke would need to have an emergency operation and we were allowed to see him quickly.

"The moment my son asked me if he was going to die, really is every mothers nightmare and even now he's made a full recovery and is getting on with his life, I often just break down in tears at the thought. That's why it's important for this campaign to reach out to young people and help raise awareness amongst parents to give them both the confidence and the necessary support to speak to their children so they might not have to go through what I had to."

Know what your child is up to, where they are going out and who with. Talk to them about consequences of decisions they make that may have a massive impact on their future.

# Mental Health

This green paper is about what we want to do to help children and young people with their mental health. A green paper is a document where the government states what it wants to do, so that people can tell the government what they think.

In this quick read version of the children and young people's mental health green paper we explain what changes we want to make. The changes will affect:

- pupils, students and staff at schools and colleges
- specialist mental health services
- families and communities

The paper outlines what every young person in the country will have access to in terms of mental health provision. There will be a much bigger focus on the role that school and universal services play in the positive mental well being of every young person.

Practitioners in:

- school nurses
- educational psychologists
- school counsellors
- voluntary and community organisations
- social workers

Will be trained to understand the role that mental health may play in a child's ability to make decisions and function. Therefore there will be an emphasis on the offer of specialist help and advice and a more coherent working practice.

Free training will be available to all to help schools and other agencies gain a better understanding of mental health and its impact.

As part of the Green Paper there will be detailed study of the impact of social media on mental health of young people.

The Green Paper is at the consultation phase and is available to view in full on the Gov.uk website.

## **What does that mean for us?**

Training staff and pupils in mental health first aid.

Ensuring all practices within school address mental health issues

Teach positive mental health and well being through mindfulness

Develop a robust mental health policy to be accessed by all.

Work closely with the governors to ensure that mental health provision is adequately resources and funded.

## **Training New Staff Only**

A reminder that if you have not already done so please return your completed safeguarding declaration to Alison Bolton. If you are new to the school you also have to complete your online training. (See Carol Brockbank) and the Channel General Awareness Course using the following link. [http://course.ncalt.com/Channel\\_General\\_Awareness/01/index.html](http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html)