



Signs of Safety News!

Lots of exciting things have been happening this month:



Signs of Safety training has started,

our lead practitioner for Signs of Safety is now in post,



our front door has started using Signs of Safety practice,

and our Practice Leads met as a group for the first time to start to shape their role.



You can read more about each of these below.

Signs of Safety Lead Practitioner in post

Our Lead Practitioner for Signs of Safety, Louise Wright, started in post at the beginning of November. Louise would like to introduce

herself to you:

"I have already met lots of people around the service since I started on 6th November, and some of us have enjoyed the Signs of Safety two day training which is really helping to get the Signs of Safety party started!

For those I haven't met, I've had a go at making a Signs of Safety 'words and pictures' (attached) to help you all know a little bit about me and why I am passionate about social work. I hope you can also take inspiration from my effort and have a go at using words and pictures too when engaging with families. This 'get stuck in' attitude is absolutely the spirit of Signs of Safety, so don't hold back!

I'm going to base myself in at least three locations each week; these will be Macclesfield (Town Hall), Crewe (Delamere House) and Middlewich (Cledford).

I look forward to seeing you all and talking about what Signs of Safety practice you are trying out in your teams."

Signs of Safety training has started!

Signs of Safety training started last week for Children's Social Care and Prevention Managers and Practice Leads. This included key partners from our health providers, East Cheshire NHS Trust, Wirral Community Trust and Cheshire and Wirral Partnership. Future training will also involve members from Leighton Hospital, the Family Nurse Partnership, the Police, education, and the named GP for Safeguarding.

The training focused on how we can make our work much more child and family centred, and the tools we can use to support strong analysis of what is happening for families; both the good things and the risks.

The training was really well received, and involved working through live cases using Signs of Safety.

"This was excellent training. The delivery, and facilitator Haley, was extremely engaging, charismatic, caring, child focused. Probably some of the best training I have been on in the 25 years I have worked for Social Care"

"I really enjoyed the training and it made me look forward to trying my best to implement the learning moving forward"

"Really engaging training and have been putting it into practice all day today in supervision and meetings!"



Attendees on Signs of Safety training doing 'Hands Up' for Children's Rights

If you are interested in how Signs of Safety works in practice please see the Signs of Safety workbook (attached) which is the handbook to the training. For internal staff this is also available on [CheSHARE](#).

Please don't print the workbook – as this will add up to a significant printing cost over all our teams!

Briefing sessions for partners will be available in the New Year.
We will be announcing these shortly!

Practice Leads Network

Our Practice Leads, who are champions and leaders for Signs of Safety, met together for the first time this month to start to develop their role. They completed an exercise where they drew their vision for Signs of Safety in Cheshire East and how they see themselves in supporting our journey.



This picture shows that change can be challenging. The person at the departure gate is feeling a bit uncertain about the journey ahead, as we move from 0 to 10 in our confidence in using Signs of Safety practice. There are some mountains to cross, but there is a multi-agency hot air balloon operated by the Practice Leads there to help, representing that with support we can all get to our destination more quickly. The Practice Leads are lowering a ladder to rescue anyone stuck on the mountain. At the destination there are the presents we will receive as a result of using the practice, including safety, resilience, strength and our aspirations.

Signs of Safety goes live in the Front Door

Our front door is the first whole team to start using Signs of Safety, and they are already seeing a difference in the types of conversations taking place.



Practitioners are asking questions in line with the Signs of Safety approach, focusing on understanding what safety is already within the family, as well as the extent of the risk. Callers are asked to scale how worried they are about the child or young person on a scale of 0-10, which is helping both the practitioner and the caller appreciate where they both are in terms of their assessment of the risk.

For more information on the questions that are being asked at the front door, please see the Signs of Safety page on the [LSCB website](#).

Want to know more?

For more information on Signs of Safety please see our [LSCB website](#) and the official Signs of Safety website www.SignsofSafety.net

Contact us at:

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