



## Signs of Safety/Wellbeing is coming soon to our CAF and CIN/CP forms

We have an exciting announcement... our new forms for CAF and Child in Need and Child Protection (CIN/CP) will go live very soon!

The new forms reflect the Signs of Safety approach, or Signs of Wellbeing as we call it when we are looking at early help and prevention at CAF.



We hope you will see that we have slimmed down and simplified the forms so these should be more family friendly, easier and quicker to complete.

### When will it be?

#### **The CIN/CP forms will go live on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Child and Family Assessments, CIN Plans, CP Plans and Strategy Discussion records will look different. You will see a change in how meetings are conducted (so that they centre around the three columns), and all agencies will be asked to scale the risk to the child or young person on a scale of 0-10, and contribute to writing the Danger Statements and Safety Goals.

For most multi-agency meetings, the discussion in the meeting will all be contained within the three columns in the plan, so there will no longer be separate minutes. Separate meeting notes will continue to be provided for CP Conferences.

#### **The CAF forms will go live on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

Both the paper forms and the electronic CAF forms will change to the new version on 5<sup>th</sup> March. The new paper CAF forms are already available on the [CAF website](#), as **if you will be submitting your CAF on or after 5<sup>th</sup> March it will need to be in the new format.**

You can keep submitting the current forms up until 5<sup>th</sup> March.

## What will they look like?

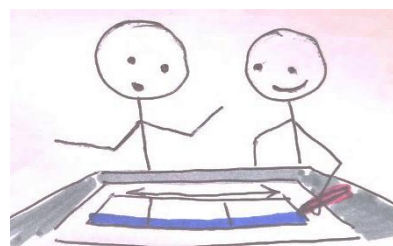
The new forms include:

- **The three Signs of Safety/Wellbeing columns:** what we're worried about; what's working well; and what needs to happen
- **Scaling from 0-10** on the risk to the child or young person
- **Worry/Danger Statements and Wellbeing/Safety Goals.**  
Worry/Danger Statements summarise the concerns in a powerful statement so the concerns are really clear for families.  
Wellbeing/Safety goals say what we need to see to be confident that things are OK and we no longer need to be involved so families know what we are all working towards.

Quick reference guides on using the three columns, scaling, and writing Worry/Danger Statements and Wellbeing/Safety Goals will all be available on the [LSCB website](#) very shortly, and there are lots of examples of these contained within the Signs of Safety workbook (attached).

## What support is available?

We hope you will find the new forms easy and straightforward to use, but if you need any support or advice please contact:



- The **Early Help Brokerage team** for support in completing CAFs, including one to one support [EHB@cheshireeast.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:EHB@cheshireeast.gcsx.gov.uk)
- Your Signs of Safety/Wellbeing **Practice Lead** within your organisation – for schools your Practice Leads are in the SCIES Team [SCIES@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:SCIES@cheshireeast.gov.uk)
- **Louise Wright our Lead Practitioner for Signs of Safety**  
[Louise.Wright@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Louise.Wright@cheshireeast.gov.uk)



## e-learning

An e-learning module on Signs of Safety is now available which is linked below. This will give you an overview of what Signs of Safety is, what the approach involves and the key tools.

This is a great introduction to Signs of Safety if you have not yet had chance to attend any training or briefing sessions.

For partners including schools:

<http://cheshireeast.learningpool.com/totara/dashboard/index.php?id=5>

For Cheshire East Council staff:

<http://cheshireeast.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=388>

## Partner Briefing Sessions

We ran our first Partner Briefing Sessions last week which were really well attended and well received. We will be running some more briefing sessions for partners from March – we will release the dates for these shortly.

## 5 day training on this week

Signs of Safety 5 day training is running this week from 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> February. This will mean that a lot of Prevention and Children's Social Care Managers will be out of the office for this time so please just be aware that it may take a little longer for managers to get back to you during this time.

## Share your practice!

I know lots of you are already using Signs of Safety/Wellbeing/Stability practice and are seeing the impact this has on families. We'd love to be able to share and celebrate your practice through this newsletter to inspire other people to give it a go and to support us to learn from what works.

If you have an example of work you would be happy to share, or a short description of what difference your work has made for children, young people and their families, please send it in to us at [SignsofSafety@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:SignsofSafety@cheshireeast.gov.uk)



Here's what some practitioners told us about using the approach:

**"Scaling helped me to put it into context"**

**"Clear focus and direction"**

**"It made me think about the positives and not just the problem"**

**"Made me feel empowered as a referrer"**

**"It made it easier to look at the next steps"**

**"We got a really good outcome for the young person using this approach than we wouldn't have got to doing it the 'old way'."**

If you would like to give part of the practice a try but are feeling a bit unsure, get in touch with your Practice Lead or Louise Wright who will be able to support you.

## Feedback from our trainers

Our external Signs of Safety trainers, Agi Gault and Haley Muir, who have been running our two day training, have told us that they have been really impressed with the practitioners who have attended, and the engagement they have seen from partners. They said they have seen a lot of different staff teams over the years, and that the staff here in Cheshire East are a real credit to our partnership – so congratulations everyone!



**“The staff here have made our job really easy, they are stunning, a delight to teach”**



## 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](http://www.SignsofSafety.net)

## Contact us at:

[SignsOfSafety@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:SignsOfSafety@cheshireeast.gov.uk)