

North Lincolnshire Children's MARS Arrangements

Info-sheet



Introduction

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 introduced a requirement for new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to replace Local Safeguarding Children Boards. Safeguarding Partners, made up of the local authority, the police and the local integrated care board, have a shared and equal duty to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area. North Lincolnshire's new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are known as the Children's Multi-Agency Resilience and Safeguarding (MARS) Board.

This info-sheet highlights the key documents and information available on the [Children's MARS website](#).

Multi-agency education and training

Children's MARS education and training programme

The Children's MARS Board seeks to support individuals in keeping up to date with their knowledge and skills relating to safeguarding children.

Our education and training programme gives details of upcoming courses and booking information is available on the [training page](#). Courses are free of charge to all practitioners and volunteers working with children and families in any organisation.

e-workbooks

In addition to the Children's MARS training courses, there are a number of e-workbooks available to access from the [training page](#). The e-workbooks provide a basic awareness of safeguarding children and are certified by the Children's MARS Board upon completion.

Toolkits and resources

The Children's MARS website contains a large amount of information for professionals who work with children, young people and families. Some examples of this include:

Resources page

The [resources page](#) is regularly updated with the latest resources which can be used to provide support to children and families. This page also contains details on a number of services to which families can self-refer and seek support from.

A range of toolkits are available on the resources page and cover a number of topics including domestic abuse and risk outside the home. The toolkits provide advice and guidance around what you should do when working with children and families who require help and contain many resources and sources of support which families can be signposted to.

Children, young people and families page

The [children, young people and families page](#) contains a number of resources aimed at children, parents/carers and contains information around how families can access support. We recommend that staff and volunteers also make themselves familiar with this page and signpost families to the information.

This page also contains information around what to do if you are worried about a child and how to contact North Lincolnshire Children's Services to report concerns.

Early Help page

The [early help page](#) provides advice and guidance to organisations who provide early help to families. You can find guidance around how to complete early help assessments, the role of the lead professional as well as information about how to record early help on the online system.

Local key policies, procedures and guidance

The Children's MARS website contains a wide range of local policies, procedures and guidance across a number of topics. Some of the key documents to access via the [policies, procedures and guidance page](#) are as below:

Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire 2020/24 Document

This document sets out how services support children, young people and families to participate, find help online and in their networks and communities, to be resilient, stay safe and independent. The document contains information relating to the values and principals of the One Family Approach which aims to keep children in their family, in their school and in their communities.

Assessing need and providing help

This guidance outlines early help, information sharing, making a referral to Children's Services, and what happens once a referral has been made.

Improving child protection and safeguarding practice

This document sets out the process to be followed in the event of a serious child safeguarding incident and the arrangements for undertaking a Child Safeguarding Practice Review.

Risk outside the home approach

The risk outside the home approach document sets out how we work with children and young people who are vulnerable to and/or are experiencing exploitation. A suite of procedures are also available including CSE, CCE, safeguarding children who may have been trafficked and children who runaway or go missing from home and care

Managing allegations against adults who work with children

This procedure outlines what should be done following an allegation of abuse or maltreatment of a child against a professional, staff member, volunteer or others who works with or cares for children. There are also a number of brief guides for employees, employers and parents/carers available which set out what happens when an allegation has been made against a person who volunteers or works with children in North Lincolnshire.

Documents for volunteers and voluntary, charity, social enterprise, faith-based organisations and private sectors

An info-sheet sets out the information and guidance available for VCSE, faith-based and private sector organisations. Guidance and checklists for completing safeguarding policies are also available.

Communications and stakeholder engagement

Email communications and social media

The Children's MARS Board produces quarterly news updates which provide information on the work of the Board and includes updates on local and national guidance. We also promote new training opportunities, resources for professionals and volunteers, support for children and families and information relating to events and conferences.

Children's MARS Spotlights are produced to highlight key local and national resources, upcoming training and messages for practice relating to a specific theme.

If you wish to subscribe for Children's MARS communications emails, please complete the [communications sign up form](#).

A collection of our previous news updates and Spotlights can also be found on the [communications page](#).

The Children's MARS Board regularly post updates via the partnership social media pages Safe North Lincs. Support and advice for children and families can be found on our Facebook and Twitter pages. Follow us on Facebook [Safe North Lincs](#) or Twitter [@SafeNorthLincs](#) or scan the QR code below.



Learning from practice

Through the [Children's MARS Board Scrutiny and Assurance Framework](#) a range of mechanisms are in place to ensure scrutiny and assurance including independent scrutiny.

On the [learning from practice page](#) of our website, there are a number of 7-minute briefings which outline the learning from Children's MARS scrutiny and assurance activity. Other briefings for practitioners are available outlining the key points from national reports.

A special edition news update on lessons learned can also be found on the [communications page](#).

Key documents

Further information on our local arrangements can be found on the [key documents](#) page of our website.

These documents include:

- Local Arrangements
- Local Arrangements – Appendices
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Annual report of local arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people

 mars@northlincs.gov.uk

 www.northlincsmars.co.uk