

Essex Safeguarding Children Board



COVID-19 webpages – keeping you informed

The Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) has a dedicated [Coronavirus hub](#), which aims to provide a single point of access for anyone needing information and resources in relation to safeguarding children and young people.

These pages outline:

- [temporary changes to services](#)
- [general information](#)
- [resources for families](#)

Effects of the lockdown and child safety

Safeguarding children, particularly during the lockdown, remains our number one priority. We want to highlight a few key areas for you to promote and share within your

* ESCB TRAINING *

ESCB Training which was cancelled due to the Coronavirus crisis, has been re-arranged and dates will be advertised shortly.

ESCB WEBSITE



The professionals pages on the ESCB website are undergoing a review to bring them in line with the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA), this will include more information about the Statutory Partners and the role they have to play. The review will also streamline the information available to professionals so we focus on our key priorities, ensuring professionals can access the information they really need (policies, processes and referrals, contact numbers and where to go for support).

In the meantime we will be promoting our new [Children and Young People pages](#) across social media.

Stay Safe At Home

organisations and with families you work with. We're regularly promoting our messages on social media so please share on [Facebook](#) and re-tweet on [Twitter](#).



If a child is poorly... This is a worrying time for parents. Self-isolation, social distancing, the fear of infection in

hospital, are all things which may delay parents seeking help for a sick child. This could cause a child to become more poorly than they should do. Parents are advised to look at this [checklist of symptoms](#) and what to do in each instance. Parents should seek medical advice if they are worried about their child – and trust their instinct.



Under 5's at home all

day?... 90% of accidents to under 5's happen at home. It's important parents realise the importance of taking some time to make their homes as safe as possible.

There can be an almost endless list of potential 'accidents waiting to



The **Stay Safe at Home** campaign focuses on five risks to people during this challenging time: domestic abuse, child abuse, accidental house fires, fraud and bogus callers.

These are very challenging times for us all, and while the government advice is to stay home, for some people, home is not a safe place. If you are living with domestic abuse and feel even more isolated and at risk please remember there is help available.

For further information regarding the domestic abuse campaign and its resources please click on the below link.

Stay Safe at Home campaign materials

To support or follow the campaign search for #StaySafeAtHome and #StayHomeSaveLives on social media.

<< Useful resources and links >>

ESSEX SCHOOLS INFOLINK – [Covid-19 webpage](#)

ESSEX CHILD AND FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICE -[Resource Hub](#) for families including emotional and physical wellbeing, support for young people, home-schooling and much more.

YOUTH SERVICES ONLINE ACTIVITIES - Youth Services are offering online activities during the lockdown. Activities are hosted through Zoom and a full list each week can be found on [their website](#).

happen' but to help parents focus [Child Accident Prevention Trust \(CAPT\)](#) have outlined five of the most serious accidents that are the easiest to prevent.

1. Threats to breathing – choking, strangulation or suffocation
2. Falls
3. Poisoning
4. Burns and scalds
5. Drowning

Our [webpages](#) have more safety information for parents and the [Child Accident Prevention Trust \(CAPT\)](#) has further information as well as downloadable resources.



Children spending more time online... With young people spending more time online there's a real risk online grooming and exploitation may increase during the lockdown. There's been a huge rise in the use of Zoom and Houseparty (apps most had never heard of before the coronavirus pandemic), so it's important to continue the conversations with children around online safety. There are lots of

resources out there, including these [Home Activity Packs from ThinkUKnow](#) and the [ESCB Online safety resources for professionals, parents/carers and young people](#).



Crying babies, unsettled babies, colic, reflux...

The terms used are endless, but parents with babies and young toddlers know how hard and overwhelming that first year or so is, let alone doing it without a wider support network. But it is so important to remind parents of the importance of [Safer Sleep](#). Parents may find themselves wanting to share a bed (or co-sleep) with their baby, especially if they are waking often during the night.

The Lullaby Trust explains the steps parents **MUST** take to make this shared sleep space safe. There are some instances where bed sharing is **NEVER** safe (smoking, drinking alcohol, prematurity, low birth weight, illness). All the advice can be found on [The Lullaby Trust website](#).

Child Exploitation Update

You may have seen on the ESCB website, a recent [blog](#) by our new Child Exploitation Manager, Sally-Ann Millar. Sally joined the team earlier this year, having worked with children and families for over 20 years. In her blog Sally talks about supporting partners to review their Child Exploitation processes, embedding partnership working across the sector and continuing the existing work around awareness raising.

Sally is also working in partnership with Essex Police and other partners to develop a suite of measures (including training) to support local hotels to strengthen their safeguarding processes.

The ESCB website review will include updating the Child Exploitation information currently available to professionals, ensuring they can access the information they need quickly, (referral processes, contact numbers and policy guidance) and removing old information.