

COVID Email Update 5 October 2020

Good morning to you all, I hope you and your families are doing okay.

There has been no change to the Public Health advice for Camden this week although we are aware of more COVID cases in Camden schools, which may be affecting you or families you work with. I will of course be in contact with you if or when anything changes in the advice we are to follow.

Corporate have asked us to remind everyone who uses 5PS to please make sure you follow the social distancing rules for the building, including sitting in your dedicated seat and always maintaining 2 metre distance from others.

Apologies for the rather long list of updates for you this week:

Black Lives Matter Webinar – Culture and Protecting Children’s Rights

I’m delighted to confirm the next webinar in our Black Lives Matter series will take place on Thursday 15 October at 2pm. This time we will be exploring culture and protecting children’s rights.

We are all shaped by our own culture and heritage, which have practices and norms. Sometimes when we work with families, their cultural practices and norms might seem very different to our own. Sometimes we believe those practices and norms might put children in dangerous situations. How do we stay culturally responsive and respectful AND ensure children’s rights are protected? Are there ever times when too much cultural sensitivity leads to children from the global majority receiving a lower level of care and protection – which in itself is a racist act?

We’ll be welcoming Dr Anna Gupta, Professor of Social Work at Royal Holloway University of London to help us unpack this vitally important topic. Calendar invite to follow. This webinar is mandatory unless you are on leave. If you want to do some reading on this before the webinar, have a look at the Laming Review of Victoria Climbié’s tragic death on the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/black-lives-matter-resource-repository/resources-for-daily-practice/#main>

Black Lives Matter – Frontline Practitioners Group On the Way

We are now well on the way to launching our Black Lives Matter frontline practitioners group later this month. These will be spaces for every FSCF frontline worker to explore and make recommendations on three areas of making our work culturally responsive, anti-racist and anti-oppressive – what you need in daily practice, what you need from teams, services and systems, and what you need from partnership spaces and networks.

I am delighted that Adele from FIF will be taking a leadership role in this, so please do get in touch with Adele if you’d like to get involved in the planning work. Invites to follow shortly.

Children and Parents Previously Shielding – Letter Sent By Camden

On 26 September, Camden emailed everyone who was previously on the shielding programme list. This is not because the shielding programme is starting again now. This was a letter with some reminders about how to keep safe and well, and contact details for Camden if residents were worried about the rise in COVID cases in London. You can find copies of the letters here, and if you are working with a child and family who were previously on the shielding list, it would be worth reading the letter so you know what messages have been given <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/clinically-extremely-vulnerable-high-risk-people-shielding/#main>

Free Transport for Under 18s in London Continues – For Now

Free transport for children and young people was due to be temporarily suspended after October half term, but it was announced last week that decision is delayed again until spring

2021. This will be a relief for families reliant on free transport to get children to and from school. One to pass onto parents if they are worried. More info here

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/london-tube-no-coronavirus-sample-study-a4561141.html>

Zoom Now Available to Everyone – But Still Not for Arranging Meetings

Having reviewed the safety measures Zoom has put in place since April, Camden has decided that all Camden staff may now use Zoom BUT only to join meetings arranged by other people or organisations. We still do not have permission to arrange meetings on Zoom. There may be exceptional circumstances where you could now be given permission for example if accessibility for external partners is problematic or where our partners have a very strong preference for Zoom. If you want to arrange a meeting on Zoom, my best advice is to email Nana Barfi-Sarpong, Chief Technology Officer (on Outlook) and ask for permission.

Face Coverings now Required in 5PS Communal Areas

From Monday, you will need to wear your face covering in communal areas of 5PS where safe social distancing can be more difficult. This means that, unless you are exempt, you will need to wear a face covering when entering the building, travelling to your desk, and in corridors, kitchens, stairs, lifts and toilets.

Booking a Room for Face-to-Face Visits at 5PS

We have learned that you can book rooms at 5PS that have screens installed. These are the ground floor face-to-face meeting rooms. You may want to consider this as an alternative venue to a home visit. You can book one of these rooms by emailing ContactCamdenRoomBookings@Camden.gov.uk and these details have been uploaded to the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/alternative-venues-for-visits/general/#main>

Resilient Families Practice Pack and Materials Now on the Guidebook

Following a request in the Guidebook feedback survey, I'm pleased to say the Resilient Families Practice Pack and all associated materials, resources and worksheets are now on the Guidebook here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/resilient-families-practice/>

Resilient Families Online Training Now Available

Resilient Families training is now available through 4 x 3-hour online workshops by our in-house Resilient Families trainers (including Paul, Naz, Jess E and me). If you have started working in Camden since February 2020, and haven't yet had Resilient Families training, please do book onto the workshops via the L and D portal asap as places are limited. Link here <https://camden.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=1005>

Free Replacement White Goods for South Camden Families on Low Incomes

Three of the South Camden grant-givers are taking part in a scheme to replace old or poor quality white goods for new ones. Criteria applies, the scheme is open until December 2020. Worth thinking about for any families you're working with (thanks to Jo in TT for sending in) <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/finance-bills-and-financial-hardship/grants-from-charities-trusts-and-foundations/#main>

Feedback About The Weekly Email Update and the Guidebook

If you haven't had a chance to complete the feedback survey about the weekly email update and Guidebook, you'll find it here [WEEKLY EMAIL UPDATE AND GUIDEBOOK FEEDBACK SURVEY](#) . Thank you to everyone who has sent their feedback already, I'm learning a lot from your thoughts and views. Survey closes Friday 9 October.

Weekly Survey

The weekly survey is open for you to let me know about any emerging family needs, and anything you need. This weeks survey link is here [FSCF FAMILY NEEDS SURVEY W/C 5 OCTOBER](#)

New information uploaded to the COVID Guidebook this week link here
<https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/>

<p>Occupational Therapy for Children</p> <p>A new Guidebook section outlining the OT offer for children in Camden schools, which includes supporting children who have experienced trauma and who may have difficulties with sensory processing and regulation. Well worth a look https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/occupational-therapy/#main</p>	<p>Child-To-Parent Violence and NVR</p> <p>More materials, information and resources on child-to-parent violence, and the Non-Violent Resistance approach to help parents, including the slides from our NVR webinar last week https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/conflict-or-violence-in-the-home/child-to-parent-violence/#main</p>	<p>Black Lives Matter Resource Repository – For Kids</p> <p>Added to the Repository this week, a range of resources for talking with children about racial justice and Black Lives Matter https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/black-lives-matter-resource-repository/talking-with-children-about-black-lives-matter/#main</p>
<p>Letter Sent to People Previously Shielding</p> <p>A copy of the letter sent to children and adults who were previously shielding, with advice and support in case they are worried about the rising cases in Camden. The shielding programme is still paused https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/camden-covid-data/#main</p>	<p>Systemic Conversation Cards</p> <p>A wonderful new resource from our friends in CSSW, a set of systemic, reflective cards to use with families during early stages of assessments, or in supervision. Well worth a look (scroll down three times to find them!) https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/remote-direct-work-kit-bag/#main</p>	<p>Resilient Families Practice</p> <p>A new section of the Guidebook containing all the information, materials and resources about the Resilient Families Practice Model https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/resilient-families-practice/</p>
<p>Managers – More Supervision Resources</p> <p>Additional tools and resources to support reflective, helpful and purposeful supervision spaces https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/managers-supervisory-practice-during-covid/#main</p>	<p>Schools Contacts List Updated</p> <p>The list of key professionals contact details for all Camden schools has been updated as some new headteachers have recently been appointed https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/schools/contact-details-for-camden-schools/#main</p>	

We are now in week 29 of COVID, and whilst our current capacity remains stable and manageable. Family Early Help is currently supporting 705 children from 402 families, which is in line with our average for this time of year. I will keep in contact with you as we monitor the second wave situation closely. As always, please do shout if there is anything you need.

Becca

Becca Dove, Head of Family Support and Complex Families
 Telephone: 020 7974 3603