

COVID Email Update 27 September 2021

Good morning to you all, I hope you and your families are doing okay. Updates for you this week:

Use of 5PS

Corporate have now welcomed more staff returning to Camden buildings, and social distancing measures were lifted at 5PS on 13 September. This of course doesn't mean that all COVID-safe precautions have been removed, far from it, and most are still in place. You can read more about what Corporate are doing to help keep our buildings safe on this link <https://lbcamden.sharepoint.com/sites/UsingOurBuildings?e=1%3a83789f8a8869406f9f2d1ab06861a527>

Now that Corporate have taken this step, it's time for me to look at future arrangements for our bubble system, and I'll be discussing this with SMT next week. Your service managers will be talking with you in team meetings too, to hear your thoughts and worries and feed your views into the decision making. Individual risk assessments are still our main way for each of us to work with our managers to make sure we mitigate risks and do all we can to stay safe and well. On that subject....

Individual Risk Assessments

You may remember back in August, I let you know that Health and Safety had refreshed the individual risk assessment template. I asked your managers to work with you to transfer your individual risk assessment from the old template to the new one. We set ourselves a deadline of 30 September to do this, because all individual risk assessments should be reviewed every 20 working days anyway.

If you haven't yet transferred your individual risk assessment to the new template, please contact your manager so you can do this together. You can find the template here https://lbcamden.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/intranet/HR/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B14213D47-042E-4278-A9F8-61991798C466%7D&file=Individual%20Covid-19%20Risk%20Assessment%20Form%20Guidance%20and%20Template%20%20FAQs%20v7.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true

Ofsted Preparation – Update

As promised, we now have a 'Top Tips for Preparing for Inspection' – this is on the attached email from Sophie Kershaw. Well worth a read and an explore in your team meetings so you can feel ready if you get the chance to talk with Ofsted when they eventually arrive. If you haven't watched the Ofsted briefing yet, you can find it here https://lbcamden-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/q/personal/becca_dove_camden_gov_uk/ES9HWDQIz9pEsiP37Q3TpnEB88iUq5idpbjg72OCZumBug

Whole Service Briefing – The Next 12 Months

I'll be shortly sending you a calendar invite to talk with you about the next 12 months for Family Early Help.

Some of this will be about the work we've done to identify the strengths and areas for development for our service (partly to get ready for Ofsted but more importantly through our ongoing QA and practice development work) and what our service and practice priorities will be for the next 12 months. We'll also cover '*where next for Family Early Help in a post-COVID world*', thinking strategically about what Camden children and families might want and need from our service over the next 5 years, and how to get involved in that thinking. Please do attend if you can.

Afghanistan Crisis Response – Update

Support for Afghan refugees currently staying in temporary accommodation bridging hotels continues at pace, and we have seen a growing number of contacts for Afghan refugee families at front door. The new Guidebook section for the Afghanistan Crisis Response is here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/afghanistan-crisis-response/>. If you are working with a refugee family, please do take some time to have a look at the material to help you in the work.

Managers, please also make sure you have a look at this Guidebook section so you can support workers in and through supervision.

Weekly Survey

This week's family needs survey, for you to raise any issues you're seeing and noticing for families and anything you might need yourself, is now open here [FSCF FAMILY NEEDS SURVEY W/C 27 SEPTEMBER 2021](https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/)

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>Afghanistan Crisis Response New Guidebook section on helping and working with Afghan refugee families staying in the temporary accommodation bridging hotels in Camden. https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/afghanistan-crisis-response/</p>		
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We are now in week 80 of COVID and our capacity is currently steady. A warm welcome back to those of you who are just returning to work.

Stay safe and well and, as ever, shout me if there is anything you need.

Becca

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