

Rapid Review July 2024

7 Minute Briefing

1. Purpose

This briefing shares key learning from a recent safeguarding review to help improve practice and keep children safe

2. Type of Review

Rapid Review July 2024

3. Reason for Review:

The catalyst for this review was a tragic death of a teenager who was admitted to hospital following an overdose.

4. Key Learning Themes

- Sexual abuse - A police investigation was closed as no prospect of a conviction; consideration could have been given to asking the court for an extension on the 6-month rule due to the allegations not being received by the police until later.
- Education as a protective factor
- all referrals for Elective home Education must have lateral checks completed and rerecorded on allocations so that a line manager can review information submitted by school and provide the advisor clear management oversight
- A home visit should always be offered for initial education visits.
- Emotional and mental health wellbeing – At the point of closure, agencies must consider communication with relevant and universal services to ensure the right support is in place for the family at the right time.
- Communication between agencies and systems – school, police and children's social care should share information with primary care i.e. GPs, after the disclosure of abuse.
- Child's voice – decisions regarding children should be informed by the child's voice.

5. What Good Practice Looks Like

- ✓ When Elective home Education is being considered all lateral checks must be completed.

6. Actions for Practitioners

- ✓ The child's voice should be listened to with intent to act, by all professionals involved.
- ✓ A reduced timetable should only be considered as a last resort option
- ✓ Parents should be supported to make fully informed decisions about elective home education

7. Resources & Support

- Training opportunities:
Safeguarding Children's Partnership Training offer

<https://www.cescp.org.uk/learning-and-development/courses-available-and-links-to-book.aspx>

8. Points for consideration

- How does this learning apply to your role/agency?
- What changes can you make in your practice?