



## **Parenting Overview November 2023**

### **Role: Parenting co-ordinator and facilitator**

The role was newly created to work across the Supporting Families network. The role takes on two parts; one of coordinating the parenting offer within West Berkshire and one delivering parenting interventions in groups or individually.

The vision for West Berkshire is to have a universally accessible parenting offer that parents are comfortable to access without stigma.

### **Parenting Provision**

Engagement took place with partners across the early help system to explore what parenting work was on offer and being undertaken across West Berkshire. Engagement took place with partners in Public Health and Education to consider the child's first 1001 days, school readiness and transition to secondary school. A report was completed and explored at the Prevention and Early Help Partnership meeting in June 2023.

A number of different parenting groups and programmes are on offer within West Berkshire. There are a number of targeted parenting provisions included in the offer which the parenting coordinator and facilitator has been trained in and supported in delivery (STOP and Who's in Charge). Also, individual parenting support is on offer via a range of professionals.

The Parenting coordinator and facilitator recognises the wide range of agencies offering support and has arranged a parenting network meeting to provide connections between the group. The first meeting took place and was attended by 14 professionals and the next meeting will explore the ongoing agenda of the group and to ensure that effective practice is shared.

Work is taking place to update the West Berkshire website to provide a platform where parents seeking support can readily access information and advice.

### **Care for the Family Facilitator Training – Primary Schools**

When engaging with schools a gap in knowledge and skills was noted when children start school. Concerns raised by parents in relation to school readiness and boundaries/routines were noted. Therefore exploration took place regarding a parenting support programme that could be offered by schools in an environment that parents could access without stigma.

Care for the family were identified as a provider to offer training for schools, which has been utilised within family hubs. The parenting coordinator and facilitator arranged funding for two training courses, which could provide 28 trained professionals.

The first of two Care for the Family 'Time Out' facilitator training commenced at the start of November 2023, with very positive feedback from the participants, they are very keen to complete the final part and to start coordinating and facilitating these universal programmes within the school. Part two is taking place at the end of November.

Next steps:

- Promotion of the second programme will commence immediately, taking onboard the positive feedback from the first group. Second Programme running in February
- Continued work to ensure the webpages are accessible for parents seeking support and advice.
- A Parenting Network Meeting is arranged for December
- Exploration of developing support for parents of exploited children – including parents as safeguarding partners
- Further training for school professionals offering 'children with additional needs' module via Care for the Family.

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