

Safeguarding Prompts Part 2

Witchcraft

Child abuse related to belief can include: exorcism attempts. Violence against suspected 'witches' has already resulted in several child deaths. Children may be neglected, emotionally, sexually or physically abused using ritualistic beating, burning, cutting or restraint.

Criminal Child Exploitation (CCE)

Perpetrators exploit children and vulnerable adults and use them to move and store drugs and money; often using coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons.

Uncooperative Parents / carers

In extreme cases, practitioners may experience intimidation, abuse, threats of violence and actual violence. The child's welfare should remain paramount at all times and where practitioners are scared to confront the family, we must consider what life is like for a child in the family.

Channel programme.

Channel is a confidential, voluntary multi-agency safeguarding programme that supports people who are vulnerable to radicalisation. Detailed information on Channel is available here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/the-channel-programme>

Domestic Abuse / Violence

Anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexuality or background. The abuse may involve controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people in a relationship. It isn't just physical violence – domestic abuse includes emotional, physical, sexual, financial or psychological abuse.

Fabricated or induced illness

Fabricated or induced illness (FII) is a rare form of child abuse. It occurs when a parent/carer, usually the child's biological mother, exaggerates or deliberately causes symptoms of illness in the child. FII occurs in all ages of children, but more commonly in under 5's.

Poor attendance

Irregular attendance is known to be a key protective factor in safeguarding children. Poor attendance may be a sign that a child is at risk of significant harm. Irregular attendance is a reoccurring risk factor present in serious case reviews.

Modern Day Slavery

Modern slavery is a complex, harmful and largely hidden crime. The most robust estimate to date of the scale of modern slavery in the UK was produced by the Home Office in 2014, which suggested that there were between 10,000 and 13,000 potential victims of modern slavery in 2013.

Disguised compliance

Involves parents and carers appearing to cooperate with professionals in order to allay concerns and stop professional engagement. Practitioners should display professional curiosity when working with families and not accept information from parents and carers at face value without investigating further.

