

North Ayrshire Child Protection Committee Newsletter



 *December 2020 Issue 5* 



Merry Christmas!



Name: Marina McLaughlin

Job: Nurse Consultant for Child Protection



What does your job involve?

“Being the Nurse Consultant for Child Protection, my duties are vast and varied, as you can imagine, but in summary my role is to provide strategic and professional leadership to all Health staff and services across NHS Ayrshire and Arran. This involves supporting the NHS Board in delivering high quality, safe and effective child protection services that promote wellbeing, early intervention and support for children and their families.

A significant aspect of my role involves developing effective partnership working with key stakeholders to progress improvement activity and this includes the priority areas of work identified through the Child Protection Committees (North, East and South Ayrshire)”.

What do you think is the biggest challenge for child protection within your area of work?

“The biggest challenge without a doubt is the emotive side of working in child protection. It can be very stressful for staff dealing with complex and distressing situations and it is important to recognise this and support staff to ensure their well-being at all times, whilst being mindful of your own well-being.

With the addition of the current COVID-19 situation, we are all working together to ensure CP Services are not affected which brings its own challenges. There are numerous competing demands on a daily basis, which entails prioritising and re-prioritising tasks to ensure complex situations are always managed, whilst ensuring the wellbeing of staff and meeting strict deadlines.

I’d like to add that all staff are looking after each other across the partnerships in these times and we are very lucky to have these relationships in place.”

What are your current main priorities within your work?

“We recognise the importance of effective partnership working, so it is a priority to strengthen how we work together across health services and with partner agencies to improve CP practice and achieve a consistent approach to keeping children and young people safe”.

What is your favourite part of your role?

“Although the job can be stressful, it is one I am very passionate about and have a fantastic team. It is so rewarding to actually see the positive outcomes for children and young people and knowing that we are making a difference. I have met such amazing people since coming Ayrshire 4 years ago and established not just good relationships but also friendships. I feel the job is a privilege and I’m very lucky to be in this role”.

Draft National Child Protection Guidance

The Scottish Government have published the updated DRAFT National Guidance for Child Protection which is available here:

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/consultation-paper/2020/10/consultation-revised-national-guidance-child-protection-scotland-2020/documents/draft-national-guidance-child-protection-scotland-2020/draft-national-guidance-child-protection-scotland-2020/govscot%3Adocument/draft-national-guidance-child-protection-scotland-2020.pdf>

North Ayrshire Child Protection Committee are participating in a series of consultation events and are also convening a focus group to respond to the draft guidance. Feedback is welcomed from all practitioners in North Ayrshire, if you have any comments on any aspect of the guidance please email cpc@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by **Wednesday 13th January**.



Community Child Protection Awareness



The Public Information and Engagement sub-group are continuing to think creatively about the different ways we can deliver Child Protection messages to communities within North Ayrshire. Resources have so far been delivered to all local pharmacies within North Ayrshire and we are also in the process of arranging resources to be

provided to food banks. Resources include: leaflets (both for adults and children), pens, highlighters and the new addition of hand sanitisers (all with reference to North Ayrshire Child Protection Committee) If you are working with communities within North Ayrshire and would like child protection resources and information, please contact us via the mailbox cpc@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

We are on Twitter and are regularly posting videos and Tweets for sharing widely regarding these messages and in relation to other child protection information. If you have not already done so, please follow us on Twitter @NA_CPC and also follow @childprotectsco for national updates!

North Ayrshire Child Protection Committee Annual Report is now available here: [NA-CPC-Annual-Report-19-20-FINAL-ACCESSIBILITY-CHECKED.pdf \(childprotectionnorthayrshire.info\)](#)

This report provides information on key child protection data over the course of the year, pieces of work that has been taken forward, the priorities for 2020/2021 and reference to the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic and how this will impact work for the following year.

CPC Training

North Ayrshire Child Protection Committee offers a range of e-learning modules and virtual training that staff and partners can access via the link below. Please have a look at our new interactive training calendar!

[Training - NAC \(childprotectionnorthayrshire.info\)](#)

