



Derby and Derbyshire
Safeguarding Children Partnership

COVID 19 Performance Summary Briefing – Up to 30th June 2020.

The Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership is working hard with all agencies involved in safeguarding children and young adults to understand the impact of the COVID19 pandemic and lockdown conditions. This includes an understanding of where risks to children and young people have increased because of the current situation, as well as how well agencies are working together to ensure at risk and vulnerable children are safe.

We have been looking at information from all agencies and so far we can see that since the lockdown period began on **March 23rd 2020 up until the 30th June 2020** (this information predates the closure of schools over the summer period) ...



Contacts and referrals from members of the public and professionals concerned about the welfare of a child or young person are lower than we would usually see, but are starting to increase as lockdown restrictions ease. **If you are worried about a child or family, there are details here on how to get [help](#). In an emergency, if you believe a child or adult is at serious risk of immediate harm, you should call 999 straight away and speak to the police.**



The number of referrals to Social Care and calls to Derbyshire Police for domestic abuse continue to be higher than normal. If you are worried about domestic abuse, there is further information on how you can get help [here](#).



A number of our vulnerable children are still attending school, this number is lower than we would expect but is increasing, particularly as schools reopen to more pupils. Agencies are working hard with schools and individual children to make sure that children are seen regularly and are safe.



Fewer children and young people are being referred to Mental Health Services; some of those who are referred have more severe illnesses than we would normally see, suggesting a delay in seeking care. If you are worried about mental health and would like further information on available support, you can call the Mental Health Support line, details [here](#).



Despite the lockdown, a small number of young people are still going missing from home or care, some on more than one occasion. Practitioners are working hard with these young people to keep them safe.



We have seen an increase in new cases of Children at Risk of Exploitation this month, but this is still lower than we would usually see. This may be due to children and young people having less contact with professionals.



Many services are anticipating a sharp rise in referrals as lockdown restrictions ease and professionals have more contact with children and young people.

We will be checking regularly to make sure that agencies are working together to keep children safe and will be reporting each month to the Chief Officer Group. Further information about the local safeguarding partnership is available from our website, where you can also find lots of useful information for parents, carers, children and young people on how to stay safe and well.

[The Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

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