



Stroud Lead Practitioner Newsletter

Extra Issue 2 - 23.03.2020

Welcome to the second Extra edition of the Stroud Lead Practitioner newsletter. During these unprecedented and ever changing times, communication between partner agencies is even more important and therefore, in the interim, we will be publishing a locality newsletter once a week.

The aim of these additional newsletters is to support Practitioners to continue to help meet the needs of children, young people and their families in these very challenging weeks, many of whom we know will be finding it even harder during times where routines have changed and regular face to face contact with practitioners has either significantly reduced or, in most cases, temporarily stopped. We will be sharing with you news and updates from those services who offer support countywide as well as those who are based within, and provide support only to, those families living within our locality.

We understand how difficult a time this is for everyone, especially those in educational settings, and we would like to thank you all for your continued hard work to ensure the needs of children and young people are met.

Best wishes and stay safe.

Claire(07825 734396) Jose (07768 796939) and Anita (07920 270274)



Assessment workers are working remotely taking referrals and conducting assessments by telephone or video WhatsApp or Skype. They will not be undertaking any groups or activities at this time. However, they are proactively posting ideas to help young carers stay connected on their Facebook page and shortly on their website.

www.facebook.com/GloucestershireYoungCarers/

www.glosyoungcarers.org.uk

01452 733060



Inspyre are still working around the clock to provide support; as long as they have staff to work, they will still provide a service.

They are ensuring hygiene is kept up to the best standards and all staff will have completed a Covid-19 e-learning within the next few days.

The organisation is following advice and guidance from local authorities and government to support vulnerable young people for as long as possible.

Covid-19, domestic abuse and your community

Self-isolation and social distancing mean more people are staying at home. It's a stressful time, people are working from home and children are off school. **This is an extremely risky time for victims of abuse.** As a neighbour, family member or friend, please be mindful of this.



Are you able to check-in with family or friends? A quick call or text? Decide on a code word for them to use if they need your help. If you hear, see or suspect somebody is being hurt or threatened, please call 999.

NEVER confront the perpetrator. **NEVER** talk to the victim in front of the perpetrator. **ALWAYS** call 999 in an emergency.

gdass.org.uk



Community Mentoring and Support (CMAS)

Support continues to be provided for vulnerable young people, although it is very bespoke and virtual based at present.

New referrals are also still being accepted at this time.

Community Family Care

Support is now being provided by video calling or telephone only. Referrals are still being accepted where they can be creative in offering a virtual solution and are happy to discuss in more details e.g virtual art journal support where the young person and worker engage in the activity over WhatsApp video call.

Elderly & Vulnerable Priority Shopping Hours

| | |
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| | Thursday - the first hour of opening. |
| | Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9am - 10am. (except Express stores). |
| | Friday - from store opening until 9am. |
| | Monday and Thursday - the first hour of opening. |
| | The first hour of opening, every day. |
| | Monday to Saturday, 9am - 10am. |
| | The first hour of opening, every day. |
| | Check local stores. |
| | Check local stores. |



Just to let you know that we are still open to help families in need. Most of our mentors will still be supporting by phone or video links.

We are still happy to accept referrals, and hoping to do assessments by video and then offer them Telephone support for the time being, which we have increased to twice weekly from Monday next week to cope with demand. We are also seeing increased anxiety in many of our young people so calls are for longer.

Sadly we will have to suspend all of our support groups for the time being, but again we are here for support if need me. Two of our colleagues are still manning our phones so calls can be made to **0143756745**.



We are still accepting referrals however it won't be to attend a group for the time being. Please do feel free to contact any of us here in the Groups office if you want to speak directly about a referral. Please note that we are more than happy to be in touch with you by email and/or telephone and if you need to contact us for any support please do.



All sessions have obviously been stopped, however, for families where there is a child who has additional needs or a disability, Allsorts are recommending that families join their Facebook group. There are daily activities and emotional support available through this site.

Jenkins Taxi

Have kindly offered to deliver medication to vulnerable and isolated residents in the Cam and Dursley area. Please call on 01453 542346.

Stroud District Foodbank

All centres are currently closed, however they are now delivering food to families when a food voucher has been received. Please complete vouchers as normal and then send to the Foodbank along with the families contact number and they will arrange for a delivery.

While Away the Hours...

For ideas of how to keep the children busy while daily life is very different to what we're used to, the Family Information Service are regularly updating the GlosFamilies Directory with activities and advice for parents and carers. This information can be found online at <https://www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk/kb5/gloucs/glosfamilies/advice.page?id=8foW0OS9P28>

In the meantime, here are a few we'd like to share with you...

PE with Joe Wicks: <https://www.thebodycoach.com/blog/pe-with-joe-1254.html>

Anorak Magazine: <https://anorakmagazine.com/blogs/blog/more-happy-downloads> - as well as activity sheets you can download, the magazines themselves are great too and have good ideas for cooking, messy play, word searches, activities and junk modelling.

White Rose Maths Problem of the Day: <https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/classroom-resources/problems/>

Boredom Busting Ideas: www.chatterpack.net