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Tackling Child Exploitation Support Programme

Strategic Responses to Tackling Child Exploitation and Extra-familial Harm: Joining the Dots Towards Systems Change

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Department for Education Funded by the Department for Education

Who we are

The Tackling Child Exploitation (TCE) Support Programme is a consortium led by Research in Practice with The Children's Society and the University of Bedfordshire. Funded by the Department for Education (DfE) for three years (2019-2022) the programme was funded to provide strategic support to local area partnerships in England to:

- Offer direct support and challenge to partnerships working to understand their local child exploitation and extra-familial harm context.
- Help unlock the strategic capacity for multi-agency partnerships to respond to their local child exploitation and extra-familial harm context.

TCE Approach

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Programme Delivery

Single site and regional **Bespoke Support Projects** (BSPs)

- since November 2019, TCE has delivered 30 geographical BSP projects and one national project, working in a total of 84 local areas, including Greater London and Greater Manchester.

Thematic projects, working with local areas and partners across England on common themes

- These were: minoritised voices and expertise by experience, reconfiguration of services, risk, data and partnership

National **online learning events** to disseminate key learning across the sector

- designed to share ideas and experiences, explore challenges and discuss solutions.

Microsite development and delivery.

- https://tce.researchinpractice.org.uk hosts resources, curated for professionals working in the field of exploitation and extra-familial harm

Tackling Child Exploitation Support Programme

Shared vision	• Clarifying language and definitions • Aligning role and remit towards a common goal
Connection & communication	• Identifying partners – gaps? • Including minoritised groups & experts by experience • Sharing practice experience and learning
Courageous leadership	• Balancing statutory responsibilities with flexible response to CE & EFH • Taking a non-hierarchical, listening approach
Professional curiosity	• Applying critical thinking skills • Thinking differently about risk, data and partnership working

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Joining the Dots

The Joining the Dots framework is a synthesis of the learning generated through the Tackling Child Exploitation (TCE) Support Programme

https://vimeo.com/687086419/33c93ba625

Where has Joining the Dots come from?

Joining the Dots

Child exploitation and extra-familial harm splits, separates and isolates

Form deeper and broader partnerships

Child exploitation and extra-familial harm involves control, manipulation and coercion

Focus on strengths, relationships and restorative approaches

Child exploitation and extra-familial harm moves, shifts and constantly adapts

Stand back, slow down and reflect

How, not what

Child exploitation and extra-familial harm splits, separates and isolates

Bridging Boundaries

Form deeper and broader partnerships

Child exploitation and extra-familial harm involves control, manipulation and coercion

Leading with Care

Focus on strengths, relationships and restorative approaches

Child exploitation and extra-familial harm moves, shifts and constantly adapts

Working with complexity, curiosity and uncertainty

Stand back, slow down and reflect

Joining the Dots speaks to strategic **behaviours** and approaches across a partnership that are capable of unlocking the complexity by **inverting the dynamics of child exploitation and extra-familial harm**

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How can Joining the Dots be used?

Joining the Dots is a tool for sense making:

- Provides a starting point and creates structure
- Universally applicable
- Slower pace
- Not prescriptive supporting local responses
- Partnership approach to tackle siloed working
- Strengths-based

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Where next?

TCE will be continuing for a further 12 months. Our focus will be different in this fourth year, however…

TCE will be working with the sector, and with colleagues in Government to lead the development of Practice Principles for child exploitation and extra-familial harm

What do we mean by Practice Principles?

- Help you navigate complexity in your day-to-day work
- High level (as opposed to detailed step-by-step guidance) to maximise utility
- Support effective multi-agency conversation and working
- Useful for everyone (all roles, all workplaces)
- Behavioural (focus on *how* we work together rather than *what* it is we do)
- Broad enough to sustain utility over time
- Broad enough to support local working agreements
- Endorsed by government

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How are we going to do this?

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June/July 2022

- TCE are inviting professionals, children, young people, parents, carers and communities to range of consultation events.
- Aim is to hear views about what the Practice Principles might include
- TCE will share learning so far and early thoughts about what the Practice Principles

August/September 2022

- TCE will draft the principles based on our existing learning and what we have been told during the initial consultation

October/November 2022

- TCE will invite professionals, children, young people, parents, carers, and communities to a second round of consultation events
- Draft principles to be shared & feedback sought

December 2022

- TCE will finalise the Practice Principles using the data from consultation
- These will be sent to Department for Education for comment & sign off

January - March 2023

- TCE will disseminate the Practice Principles and accompanying resources across the country
- Focus: how the principles will support responses to child exploitation and extra familial harm

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How can you get involved?

If you are a professionals working with children and families:

- Join our open-access consultation events in June
- Complete our survey (launching in June)
- Targeted focus groups
- 1:1 interviews

Contact: tceadmin@researchinpractice.org.uk

Children, young people, parents, carers and community organisations

- 1:1 interviews with a TCE member of staff
- A member of TCE team can run a focus group session for an *existing group.*
- Get in touch with Lucy.Belcher@childrenssociety.org.uk if you are aware of children, parents, carers or community organisation who would be interested to take part in our consultation.

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Thank you

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#TCEprogramme

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