

No AI has been used in this assignment.

Safeguarding: Practice, Legislation and the Multi-Disciplinary Team

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My script for the part in group discussion:

Kelly- Hello and welcome to the initial child protection conference [hereafter ICPC] on today the 15th of March 2025, in relation to the Davies family, consisting of a single mum Gemma and her two children Ben age 3 and Lola aged 1. I am Kelly Evans, chair of this conference and head teacher at Trinity primary school. For those unfamiliar with today's procedures, the conference is to converse with the family and other professionals linked to the case, in relation to safeguarding procedures to ensure the development, health and safety of the children involved. The aim is to consolidate all the information and decide the best outcome to support and protect the children's welfare (Child law advice, 2023; RSCP, 2020: Wales Safeguarding Procedures, 2025). The ICPC has been conducted within the time limit in accordance with the Wales safeguarding Procedures [hereafter WSP] (2025), section 3 parts 1 and 2, which state social services have one day to conduct a decision once a report has been made, and the conference should be held within 15 days after the initial decision. Gemma has chosen not to attend today's conference, however a copy of the ICPC records will be sent, in order to conform with the engaging parents and caregivers' section 47 enquires, section 3 part 1 of the WSP (2025), unless this is a risk to the children, this will be decided at the end of this conference. The conference will comply with the United Kingdom [hereafter UK's] Data Protection Act 2018, section 2 and the Regulation European Parliament [hereafter EU] of the Council (2016) section 2 article 32, which both state the importances of maintaining all individuals' privacy rights and confidentially, whilst the controller of the information ensures a high level of organisation and security of documentation. Can I ask all person's here today to please introduce themselves and share your reports.

Kelly: Thank you, Lucy. If it is okay with the group, I will continue to share my reports to coincide with Lucy's and to explain the referral further. As mentioned above, I am the head teacher at Trinity Primary school and the designated safeguarding Person [hereafter DSP] within my setting. My role as Head Teacher and DSP is to ensure the safety and well-being of all children and staff in relation to my duty of care as highlighted in the headteachers' standards Gov.Uk (2020), which also states to work

collaboratively with other professionals, parents, communities and those within the school. My role also involves ensuring myself, staff and volunteers within the school are trained, aware and implement all the child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures, while also feeling confident and comfortable in recognizing and reporting concerns. My role allows me to make decisions so staff can have time to access resources, meet and be involved in discussions with other practitioners to support a child's development (Welsh Assembly Government, 2008, p31: Welsh Government, 2022, pg6/7 and Wales safeguarding Procedures, 2025). I first met Gemma, when she visited the school in March 2024, for information to register her son Ben, then 2 years old, in Trinity Primary. When Ben was registered to our school the forms completed assigned Gemma and John Davies (under father) having parental responsibility, which is automatically assigned to the mother, however, refers to the father if named on the birth certificate or married to the mother of the child (Gov.uk, no-date). Ben has attended our morning nursery since September 2024. Originally mum was the only adult dropping off and collecting, although, slightly disorganized and anxious, demonstrated no safeguarding concerns. However, recently Gemma has been arriving and picking up late for nursery and giving variable reasons each time. I have also had reports from Lucy, Ben's teacher and other staff within the school, on how Ben's behaviour has 'significantly' changed and has become 'withdrawn'. Although attempts have been made to have discussions with mum, mum has not come forward with any reasons for the changes in Ben. Therefore, my staff reported it to myself as DSP and began recording on My concern, following the Education Act (2002, p121), which states concerns should be raised with the relevant body and providing evidence for concerns. Most recently Ben has made disclosures to staff as mentioned above, about what is happening at home and about his dad. To which twice that week I, as DSP, received notifications from the Operational encompass (no-date), which is a partnership between police services and education, to inform and enable support to children, in the event of experiencing abuse. The reports from Operational encompass stated they had visited the property of Gemma, in relation to herself and other parties being drunken disorderly, whilst Ben and his sister were present. Alongside Ben attending nursery in dirty clothes, the recent disclosures and an unknown male to the school, dropping Ben to nursery on the morning of my referral to social services, to which staff reported the man had a strong smell of alcohol. I contacted Gemma to inform her of

my current concerns in changes in relation to Ben's behaviour, appearance, the unknown man on drop off that morning and the recent reports from Operation encompass, and offered her to come in for a meeting, to which she declined, and hung up the phone. However, whilst on the phone, Gemma sounded intoxicated, slurring words, mumbling and I could hear music and people in the background. Concerned of alcohol misuse and the connection with the male smelling of alcohol that morning, I decided to refer to social services. Following the Wales safeguarding procedures [hereafter WSP] (2025) section 2, statutory duty to report, which states any suspicions or concerns a person has in relation to children, experiencing signs of harm, abuse or neglect, has a responsibility to refer to social services, who have the duty and powers to intervene and investigate further. I immediately informed my staff not to release Ben to any adult on collection, until I had conferred with social services. Consolidating all the previous reports from staff, operation encompass and the unknown male, I therefore decided to report Gemma, in relation to child neglect. Which is defined by the National society for the prevention of cruelty to children [hereafter NSPCC] (2020) and HM Government (2015), as a person who does not meet a child's basic physical and psychological needs, resulting in poor health and development. Myself and my staff recognised these where signs of neglect from the recent reports and behaviours of Ben, alongside the persistent signs of inadequate and dirty clothing he has been wearing, the Operational encompass reports concerning a lack of supervision and unsuitable home environment, as well as the noticeable changes in Ben's social skills, which are all signs of neglect (NSPCC, 2020: HM Government, 2015). Once I had spoken to Lucie Daley from social services, she agreed to collect Lola and Ben, and I sent all the reports, including all the details and recordings within 24 hours, in accordance with the Welsh Government (2022). As a school we want to offer as much support to the family as we can, whilst working alongside Lucie Ben's social working visiting Ben, we have also reached out to a number of organisations such as Faith in Families (2025) and Play Therapy (no-date), which are local Swansea based charities or nearby organisations, with professionals who provide support for both children and their families. The organisations provide activities for children and offer training courses for carers. Offering opportunities for families to socialize and access support to improve well-being and quality of living. Faith in Families and Play Therapy, I also work in partnerships with schools, coming in to work one to one with the children and

liaise with staff and carers. Alongside working with other professionals, our school pastoral support team will also work with Ben and attempt to promote and build a relationship with mum, whilst implementing any advice and suggestions raised in today's conference. Thank you.

Kelly: To conclude today's conference, I would firstly like to thank you all for attending and sharing all your reports and co-operating together in accordance with the working together to safeguard children act (2018) and Lord Laming report (2003, p10), to which you have all added vital information to the national database to ensure collaboration for Ben and Lola welfare . In relation to everything discussed here today, we must all understand and respect article 3 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child (UNCRC, 1991), that all decisions and actions are in the children's best interests. Thank you once again. Now we will each go into our individual self-reflections:

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