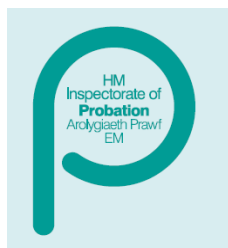


# Warrington

## Joint inspection of multi-agency child protection arrangements

### Short report for children and young people



## **What is this report about?**

This report is to tell you what we found when we did an inspection in Warrington. The inspection looked at how good the different services in Warrington are at helping to keep children safe.

## **Who wrote this report?**

Inspectors from the organisations in the list below worked together to do this inspection:

- Ofsted – looked at how children and young people are kept safe by workers in children’s social care services and education
- Care Quality Commission – looked at how children and young people are kept safe by health workers
- Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary – looked at how children and young people are kept safe by police
- Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation – looked at how children and young people are kept safe by probation and youth offending team workers.

## **How did we find out what to put in the report?**

The inspectors watched and spoke to lots of different people whose job it is to keep children safe, including: social workers, teachers, doctors, nurses, police officers, probation officers, youth offending workers and prison officers. We also spoke to a number of children and young people and their families/carers.

We call the different people who work together to protect children the ‘agencies’.

In the area where you live, the local council and a group of people called the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) watch over the agencies to make sure that everyone is doing their bit. We spoke to the local council and LSCB to find out if they were doing a good job at getting everyone to work together.

All of our grades are shown in the table below:

**OUTSTANDING**

Doing really well at keeping children and young people safe.

**GOOD**

Good at keeping children and young people safe.

**REQUIRE IMPROVEMENT**

Need to do better at keeping children and young people safe.

**INADEQUATE**

Not doing enough to keep children and young people safe.

Overall we think that the agencies in Warrington are good at protecting children and young people and keeping them safe.

Agencies are good at making sure children, their families and carers are safe.
Children are listened to and agencies understand what they need.
The agencies are good at working together to make sure children are safe and things get better.

Here is a summary of the things we found at the inspection that were generally **good or outstanding** and the things we told the agencies:

When children, young people and their families are having problems, most get the help they need early to stop problems developing further. Families are well supported as they move from one service to another as their needs change.

The help children, young people and families get is often from people who work in a range of agencies. All of these agencies understand how important the protection of children is and work well together to make this happen.

Agencies share what they know to make sure families are receiving the right help at the right time and make strong efforts to attend multi-agency meetings.

The parents that spoke to inspectors said that the help they were getting was making things better in their families. Parents understood what they needed to do to protect their children because workers explained things clearly to them.

Unborn babies are protected because those that might be at risk are identified and parents are helped to keep them safe and well.

People in agencies that have concerns about the safety of a child can get the advice and support they need to make sure they do the right thing.

Agencies respond quickly when children and young people are at risk of serious harm or are missing.

There is good leadership provided by the Director of Children's Services in Warrington and within the Warrington Safeguarding Children Board and because of this services for children have improved. Those in charge of leading services have a good understanding of what works well and what needs to improve further.

Here is a summary of the things we found at the inspection that the agencies need to do better:

Those people who suffer from domestic abuse do not always have easy access to the support they need. There is not enough help provided for people to stop them hurting others through domestic abuse.

Family doctors are not taking a full role in meetings that are taking place across Warrington to ensure that children are helped and protected.

Midwives do not have planned opportunities to talk to their supervisors about how to protect children. Social workers do have these opportunities but some meetings do not take place as often as they should.

Not enough young people know about a group of adults, called advocates, who would help young people to attend and contribute to meetings.

We gave the agencies the full inspection report on *insert publication date*. If you would like to look at this you can find it at:

*insert link*

### **Publication details not applicable to pilots**

The agencies will now prepare a plan to show how they will improve things. It will also say when they are going to talk to children and young people about what they are going to do and which groups they are going to talk to.

If you would like to talk to someone about this report, you can get in touch with your local council:

- phone them on 01925 443900
- email them on [fwaddington@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:fwaddington@warrington.gov.uk)

Or you could get in touch with Ofsted:

- phone us on 0300 123 1231  
email us on [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

If you are worried about something, big or small, you can phone Childline on 0800 1111. You can also get in touch with the Children's Right Director on 0800 528 0731, who can raise issues that he thinks are important about the rights and welfare of children or young people.