

Dear Sefton Schools, nurseries, daycare, childminders, out of school provision and other educational settings,

We are deeply shocked and saddened at the tragic events, which unfolded on the 29<sup>th</sup> July. Our thoughts are with all the victims of this attack and their families at this incredibly sad time.

Our Sefton community is close knit, and we know some of you will have been affected by this personally or have members of your community who have been caught up in this tragedy. I want to reassure everyone in our schools and settings that we are here ready to support you with whatever you may need to help yourselves, your families and your children in the weeks and months to come.

This tragedy not only hurts those directly involved but has impacts across our community. We know that those children involved will need ongoing support both physically and mentally and for those children not directly involved, there may be fear, uncertainty and anxiety for some time to come. Families will need ongoing support and schools and settings will need to be given the resources they need to signpost families to the right support.

We hope the below information will be useful for you in the coming days to share with your communities and help you to navigate difficult conversations.

Thank you for your ongoing support at this very difficult time for our community

Dr Risthardh Hare, Director for Children's Services in Sefton

### **In Person Council Support**

Linaker Family Hub is offering specialist support with its mental health and talking therapy teams who will be on site this week 30/07-02/08.

Linaker Family Hub, 103 Linaker Street, Southport, PR8 5D

### **Educational Psychology Service**

Sefton's Educational Psychology Service is available to support schools and settings directly affected. Contact Ez Mills, Principal Educational Psychologist [ez.mills@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:ez.mills@sefton.gov.uk)

**Please find their guidance and some resources in the email.**

### **Charitable Support**

Sefton CVS have put together a [list of support agencies in Southport](#) as well as details of the Southport Stronger Together fundraiser.

### **Online Support**

Sefton in Mind

If you have been affected – directly or indirectly - by the tragic events in Southport, you can find a range of support at [www.seftoninmind.org.uk](http://www.seftoninmind.org.uk)

The Sefton In Mind pages on mental health support provide information on how to access to a wide range of services in Sefton, including Crisis Support, Specialist Services including bereavement, Support for Men, Support for Women and Someone to Speak to.

Kooth

Kooth can offer free, safe and anonymous support for young people who want someone to understand, advice, or help for a friend; it is an excellent free resource that is suitable for children in Sefton.

### **National organisations**

Education Support Partnership (a UK charity dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of teachers and the entire education workforce):

<https://www.educationsupportpartnership.org.uk/> 08000 562 561

Winston's Wish: The Charity for Bereaved Children (tel: 08452 030405,

[www.winstonswish.org.uk](http://www.winstonswish.org.uk) )

Child Bereavement Trust UK (tel: 01494 568900, [www.childbereavementuk.org](http://www.childbereavementuk.org) ) – a resource for anyone who is in contact with bereaved children, parents, schools, nurseries

Cruse Bereavement Care (tel: 01159 244404, [www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk](http://www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk) ) Cruse can provide someone to talk to and information on many aspects of bereavement including advice about children and young people

### **Communications Support**

Sefton Council Communications Team will be coordinating media interest/interviews/requests. Please forward on to [communications@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:communications@sefton.gov.uk) or call 0151 934 2720 if you need support in relation to media interest or statements.