

Barnardo's – 8th April 2021

- The main challenge that children and their families experienced during the pandemic that we were made aware of was an increase in Domestic Abuse. Most of the referrals we received to support children in the Child Protection process were because of Domestic Abuse in the household
- The main positive experience for children during the pandemic that we experienced was that all the children referred to us for advocacy support were able to have their voices heard and so contribute to the meetings about them. Schools were open and enabled the advocate to meet face to face with children to obtain their views and parents were supportive of this bringing their children into school when required
- The main impact of the stay at home order/work from home that we were aware of is similar to number 1 above, that the incidences of Domestic Abuse increased which meant that children were more at risk