

## Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership with Northumberland Virtual school

Half termly bulletin for Governors, Headteachers/Principals and Designated Safeguarding Leads  
in Schools, Academies and Alternative Providers

Issue 58: 27th September 2021

### Welcome Back



Welcome to academic year 2021 – 2022 and to issue 58 of Safe To Learn. We hope you all had a very well deserved, peaceful and restful summer holiday. Now we're well into the third week at school, and you've all carried out your beginning of the year safeguarding briefings to all staff, we'd like to take the opportunity to remind you to update all your safeguarding information. As well as the safeguarding information that appears on your school website, we'd like you to update the contact information you share with the Schools' Safeguarding Team please. Before the summer holidays, Yvette Arnold invited you to complete a form containing contact information for named DSLs, deputy DSLs, Encompass and Endeavour contacts. If you haven't already completed and returned that form, please could you do so as soon as possible. It's vitally important that we have the correct contact details for your school to help when managing any safeguarding incident that may occur. If you need access to the form, please contact [joanne.lynch@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.lynch@northumberland.gov.uk)



### Model Northumberland Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

The policy is available to DSLs to support you in updating your school's policy in line with the changes to KCSiE 2021. The policy will be on the **DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint site**, in the policies folder.

### Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021



KCSiE 2021 went live on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 so please dispose of any earlier editions of KCSiE, these are no longer relevant to your school/setting. Please make sure you have a record that all staff have read and understood either Part One and Annex B, or Annex A of KCSiE, depending on their role. Please also ensure that this has been made available to all staff and visitors in school. Part one and Annex B may also be displayed on your school safeguarding noticeboard.

DSLs will also need to make sure that their school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is up to date and has no mention of previous editions of KCSiE referenced. Carol Leckie sent out a presentation on the updates in the 2021 Guidance, so please make sure these changes are reflected in your policy.

## **KCSiE 2021 – Who needs to read what?**

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021 is made up of 5 parts and 7 different annexes and different groups of people are directed to read different parts, some of which is down to a policy decision made by the school. Individual staff should not make this decision for themselves.

### **Whole Document**

Senior leaders, governing bodies, DSLs academy trust boards and independent school proprietors should read the whole document.

### **Part One and Annex B – Safeguarding Information for All Staff**

All staff who work directly with children must read Part One and Annex B

### **Annex A**

The guidance suggests that staff who do not work directly with children need only read Annex A, which is a condensed version of Part One. The school must decide who this includes and make sure all staff are notified accordingly. [Our advice would be that \*\*all staff\*\* should read Part One and Annex B, as even those members of staff who do not work directly with children, may see and hear children and their families throughout the working day. All staff are expected to be aware of indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation so they can identify when children need help or protection. Reading Part One and Annex B will support to be able to do this.](#)

### **Further Sections for Staff Awareness**

Awareness of **Part Four – Low level concerns about staff conduct** and **Part Five – Sexual Violence and sexual harassment** should be raised during staff safeguarding training and briefings. It is not necessary for all staff to read all of these sections, but an understanding and awareness of these issues is necessary.

## Relationships Matter



## Reducing Parental Conflict Message from Helen Lancaster, Supporting Families Operations Co-ordinator:

Raising awareness of the impact of parental conflict on children and enabling those working with children and families to identify and respond to those parents experiencing relationship difficulties is something we can all continue to embed in our work.

There is a range of information available for families via our website. Parents can access information [here](#) for self-directed help and support.

For parents who need some additional intervention and feel they are able to engage with this, there are the specialist relationship support programmes, run by Relate and Action for Children. If you are working with any families where this might be worthwhile, click [here](#) for further information.

### Training

To date over 230 frontline workers have been trained in having conversations with parents about conflict and some low-level intervention work, and we have been successful in obtaining a grant to carry out even more training over 2021/22. This training will be held virtually via teams and will include a full days training for those new to parental conflict, as well as 2 hour follow up sessions for those previously trained but who feel they need a refresher on the tools available. This training will be advertised over the coming weeks so please keep an eye out.

### Difference between parental conflict and domestic abuse

Sometimes, it is challenging to differentiate between parental conflict and domestic abuse. When parents are entrenched in conflict that is frequent, intense and poorly resolved this is parental conflict. Where there is domestic abuse there will be an imbalance of power and one parent may feel fearful of the other. The Northumberland Parental Relationship Scale helps practitioners to assess and have a conversation with individuals and families to determine if they are experiencing parental conflict.

### Parental Relationships and the Impact on Children

The aim of the course is to help any member of staff working in a school to identify and respond to parental conflict. It can also be used in RSE and RHSE lessons when talking about family relationships and dynamics.

Learning Outcomes are:

To understand the evidence base for the impact of parental conflict and its impact on children;

To understand the differences between domestic abuse and parental conflict;

To have effective conversations with children and young people and / or parents and carers about relationships in the family home

To be able to effectively signpost or refer parents / carers to appropriate services and online resources.

### Schools Twilight Sessions 4 – 6pm

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

To book a place access Learning Together -

<https://ncc.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=3325>

If you have any queries please contact Jan Blake ([janice.blake@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:janice.blake@northumberland.gov.uk)).

## Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use survey

The latest wave of the Government's Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England (SDD) survey is taking place in secondary schools across the country. Findings shape services and regulation that help to support and protect young people. The 2021 study will also help to identify some of the ways in which the pandemic has affected 11-15 year olds' health behaviours.



Researchers at Ipsos MORI are approaching schools this term to ask them to participate, and if contacted we encourage you to be involved. Participating schools will receive a report showing how their school's findings compare with national statistics on key measures of smoking, drinking and drug use. **You can find out more by visiting the Ipsos MORI [website](#) or by contacting Jamie Roberts on 080 8101 2066.**

## PSHE Association Quality Mark for Changing Faces



The PSHE Association have recently awarded their Quality Mark to the 'A World of Difference' lesson plans from 'Changing Faces'. Changing Faces is a charity providing wellbeing support and counselling for anyone with a visible difference.

The free resources for KS2 and KS3 will:

- Help students recognise and challenge stereotypes of visible difference through examples, activities and discussion
- Encourage students to develop understanding, empathy and celebrate difference.

The teacher guidance, lesson plan and accompanying slides will support the delivery of rights-based approaches to learning, as well as statutory RSHE content on respectful friendships/relationships, caring friendships and online relationships/media.

The materials are free to download and are available by following this link:

<https://www.changingfaces.org.uk/a-world-of-difference-resources-for-teaching-about-visible-difference/>

## Northumberland's Substance Misuse Service - Sorted



Sorted is Northumberland's Substance Misuse Service for young people. Sorted is made up of specialist workers and health staff. The service provides intervention for children and young people up to age 18 within the Northumberland area. Young people are supported to stop using substances, and to reduce the associated risks from substance misuse, both to themselves and their communities. They are also supported to achieve good physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

Sorted can help:

- young people
- professionals and agencies working with young people

**What does SORTED offer?**

Young people up to 18 years old can access the service.

We offer:

- 1-2-1 individual support
- strict confidentiality, whilst adhering to safeguarding requirements
- referral to other services, with the young person's permission. PLEASE NOTE: the young person must consent to any referral that is made.
- support to reduce use of substances/stop using substances
- multi-agency partnerships
- factual, unbiased information for young people about their substance use

### **SORTED referrals**

[The Sorted Substance Misuse Referral Form](#) is for those who wish to refer a young person to Sorted. This form should be used when there is a concern about a young person's substance use/misuse.

More information can be found via the website [Northumberland County Council - SORTED](#)

### **School Support**

There is an expectation for schools to deliver PHSE lessons regarding drugs and it can be daunting tackling an emotive subject and one that young people may feel they know a lot about without knowing the full facts. Sorted can offer training and resources to staff to help them understand substance use and how to educate young people around the subject. If you are interested in accessing staff training and resources, please contact Sorted who will arrange a time and date to discuss this.

Contact Details:

Sorted Young Peoples Drug & Alcohol Services Northumberland Adolescent Service

Northumbria House

Cramlington

Telephone: 01670536400

[sorted@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:sorted@northumberland.gov.uk)

[northumberlandadolescentservices@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:northumberlandadolescentservices@northumberland.gov.uk)

### **Removing a Nude Image Shared Online**



Nude image of you online?  
We can help take it down.

Childline have produced advice and guidance information for children and young people on how they can have a nude image of themselves removed from the internet. The advice goes on to support children on how to write a report and what they need to report. The process of what happens once a report is made is then explained to children and young people in an easy to understand way to allow children to engage with this help.

The information can be found by following this link:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/remove-nude-image-shared-online/>

### **The Domestic Abuse Act 2021**

The Domestic Abuse Act received Royal Assent on 29th May 2021. However, the provisions contained within it will come into legal force at different times.

You can find at table of changes and their commencement dates here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-act-2021-commencement-schedule/domestic-abuse-act-2021-commencement-schedule>

The Domestic Abuse Act now legally recognises the impact of domestic abuse on children.



Children living in households with domestic abuse are recognised as victims of the abuse, rather than just witnesses of the abuse.

## **Schools' Safeguarding Team – Training**

### **Governors Role and Responsibilities - virtual**

6<sup>th</sup> October 16:00 – 17:30

**£50 per person**

### **Safer recruitment (delivery of full day Lucy Faithfull Foundation course over two half day sessions) - Northumbria House Cramlington**

For details of course content see link <https://www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk/safer-recruitment-in-education-settings-training.htm>

7<sup>th</sup> October 13:00 – 16:30 **AND** 13<sup>th</sup> October 13:00 – 16:00

**£75 per person, including resources and certificate on completion of assessment**

For further information on **all safeguarding training** provided by the Schools' Safeguarding Team, please contact a member of the team or contact Alyson Webb, the Admin Assistant for the team – [alyson.webb@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:alyson.webb@northumberland.gov.uk)

We can still deliver your whole school training if required contact Carol or Justine to discuss options

## **Contact us**

Please contact us with any queries you might have by phone or by email.

**Carol Leckie, Schools' Safeguarding Team Manager, 01670 622720**

**Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gov.uk**

**Justine Clephane, Schools' Safeguarding Consultant, 07879 874168**

If you cannot make contact with a member of staff directly then please use these generic details. Your query will be logged and you will receive a response by the end of the working day or within 24 hours.

- If you have a query for the Education Welfare team please email - [educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk)
- If you have a query for the looked after children's team please email - [eslac.info@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:eslac.info@northumberland.gov.uk)
- If you have a query for the Safeguarding team or children educated other than at school team please email - [eotashealth@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:eotashealth@northumberland.gov.uk)
- If you have a more urgent query or request please telephone 01670 622787.