



Safe to Learn



Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board

Northumberland Education and Skills Service

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

Issue 22: February 2019

Advice and guidance

Advice and guidance is available from the Education and Skills Service and the Northumberland Local Children's Safeguarding Board (NSCB):

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All schools/academies/alternative providers need to know about safeguarding is ON ONE PAGE of the NCC website entitled [Information for Schools](#) and the [Safeguarding and Schools section](#) of the *Inclusion and the Virtual School* webpage.

The minimum safeguarding requirements you should to have in place by law can be found in the DfE's statutory guidance [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) September 2018.

Please remember that it is your responsibility to ensure that safeguarding practice in your own organisation meets required standards and is compliant.

Ofsted new inspection framework: consultation

Ofsted has launched a consultation about the new Inspection framework to be in place from September 2019.

From a safeguarding perspective, there are no real changes in this proposal. The framework is clear that inspectors must **evaluate the safeguarding culture that has been established in the school**, and not simply review documents. Ofsted define safeguarding as being ineffective when 'there are serious or widespread failures in the school's/setting's safeguarding arrangements that give cause for concern because children are not protected and statutory requirements are not being met, or because insufficient action is being taken to remedy weaknesses following a serious failure of safeguarding arrangements.'

In the draft guidance the section on safeguarding is on pages 67/68. This consultation closes at **11:45pm on 5 April 2019**.

Draft inspection handbooks for early years, further education and skills, non-association independent schools, and maintained schools and academies can be found by following the link [here](#).

Consultation documents can be found by following the link [here](#).

DSL training and LSCB briefings for DSLs

To ensure your continued engagement with the LSCB we will be holding termly locality meetings for DSLs to brief you about the work of the safeguarding board - news, developments, training, anything else you need to know about the safeguarding agenda.

The dates, times and locations of the briefings are listed below. The same briefing will be delivered 3 times each term but in different locations and there is an open invitation to all DSLs to attend.

There is no cost for attendance at these sessions.

Spring Briefings

- 12th March 2019, West Hartford Fire Station 09:30 - 11:00
- 13th March 2019, North location (tbc) 15:30 - 17:00
- 15th March 2019, West location (The Fuse, Prudhoe) 09:30 - 11:00

Summer Briefings

- 2nd July 2019, twilight session, South East location (tbc)
- 3rd July 2019, morning session, North location (tbc)
- 4th July 2019, twilight session, West location (tbc)

Designated Safeguarding Lead Training (for new DSLs)

This full day session is one of two days required for new DSLs in Northumberland to fulfill their role in an educational setting. The session is based around the National Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and it looks at the processes used in Northumberland from Early Help to Child Protection.

- Cost £100.00
- Date Thursday 9th May 2019

Designated Safeguarding Lead Refresher Training

This 1/2 day session supports DSLs to meet the statutory training requirement outlined in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. The content includes information on local and national priorities and refreshers DSLs on the practice when they need to refer children.

Cost £50.00

- Thursday 28th February 2019, 09:00 - 12:00
- Tuesday 2nd April 2019, 09:00 - 12:00
- Wednesday 8th May 2019, 09:00 - 12:00

All courses are held at West Hartford Fire Station and charges will be made after the session.

Confirmation of places will be sent prior to the event.

To book, please follow this link to the [online booking form](#).

In brief

Infographic: Screen-based activities

The Chief Medical Officer for the UK has published guidance on screen-based activities. The media was full of headlines about screen bans. The guidance itself had an infographic which helps parents and carers think about the challenges of managing their children's screen use.

The United Kingdom Chief Medical Officers' commentary on 'Screen-based activities and children and young people's mental health and psychosocial wellbeing: a systematic map of reviews' can be downloaded [here](#).

Safer Internet Use

Following on from Safer Internet day on 5th February it is important that schools continue to address e-safety throughout the year. To help with this, the UK Safer Internet Centre and Childnet International have published a calendar to highlight some of the issues that can be addressed during the year. Download the calendar [here](#).

Local Safeguarding Children Board 7 minute guides

The LSCB has produced a number of new 7 minute guides and these should be used in staff briefings and displayed on the safeguarding section of your staff noticeboard. Recent guides include:

- ACEs
- the toxic trio
- professional curiosity
- staying safe on line and
- abusive head trauma (shaken baby syndrome)

The full set of briefings can be located on the NSCB webpage [here](#).

School Complaints Procedures

The DfE recently published guidance to support schools to review their complaints procedures. The guidance is located here on the [DfE website](#).

Counter-extremism policy in English schools

This briefing provides an overview of the requirements of schools to counter extremist ideology and the potential for pupils to be radicalised. As school policy is a devolved area, this briefing focuses on the position in England and the guidance and advice published by the Department for Education which you can view and download [here](#).

News of pilot project with schools

From this month a pilot project is starting with Prudhoe High School, the Data Unit and children's social care. The school will receive monthly information from the Data Unit about the active early help and/or social care status of its pupils, including those which have changed their status during the previous month. Active cases include those **with Early Help involvement (an Early Help Assessment), children in need, child protection and looked after children**. It is hoped that if successful that the pilot will be rolled out across all Northumberland schools.

Operation Encompass: the next steps

A new collaboration between Northumbria Police, the Office of the Police and Crimes Commissioner, Operation Encompass and Barnardos has been developed and is ready to be launched. It's called '**Operation Encompass: The Next Steps**'. This is a pilot across Northumbria intended for national roll out.

This collaboration aims to build on successes so far, to provide enhanced support to children, families and staff affected by domestic abuse. Schools involved will be supported to raise awareness of healthy relationships and enable appropriate support and safeguarding within the safe school environment.

The main elements of the project will include training for ALL school staff to achieve a whole school approach, development of PSHE products for Key Stages 1-4, a drop in/advice service at schools and access to new school safeguarding liaison officers (SSLOs) employed by the Northumbria Police.

Head Teachers will be briefed on the new developments at the Director of Education briefings in March and this will be followed by briefings of key adults. We hope that the key adults for Operation Encompass and/or PSHE leads will be able to attend these briefings and invites will be sent to all key adults shortly.

The sessions for key adults and PSHE leads will be held as follows

- 1st April 2019 West Hartford Fire Station, West Hartford Business Park, Cramlington NE23 3JP
- 2nd April 019 The Fuse Media Centre, Moor Rd, Prudhoe NE42 5LJ
- 3rd April 2019 Lindisfarne Adult Education Centre, Lindisfarne Rd, Alnwick NE66 1AX

All sessions will be held between 15:30 and 17:00 and places should be booked by the key adult on receipt of the email.

CSE resources: secondary

Resources are regularly updated to support schools to address sensitive subjects such as sexual exploitation. There are excellent resources available at the [National Working Group website](#) to support schools to raise awareness of CSE.

Details of **CSE national awareness day on 18th March 2019** can be found here:

- www.stop-cse/saysomething

LSCB carousel event

These half day events will consider current issues on the safeguarding children agenda. Delegates will have the opportunity to attend a presentation and 2 workshops at each event and consider the implications for professional practice relating to each theme.

Learning Outcomes:

- Define County Lines, identify how it may present and consider implications for practice
- Identify the key principles and processes of the Signs of Safety approach
- Consider the impact of sexual abuse on children and the use of trauma-based practice when working with victims of sexual abuse

Bookings for these sessions should be made on [Learning Together](#), with **am and pm sessions available on 26th and 30th April.**