



Safe to Learn



Northumberland Children's and Adult's Safeguarding Partnership

with Northumberland Virtual school

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

Issue 68: 11th November 2022

Northumberland Schools' Safeguarding Team Local Updates

E-S175

The named DSL in all schools and education providers in Northumberland should have received their link to the E-S175 document. Your E-S175 needs to be completed by Friday 11th November please. This new electronic version means that all your responses will have been recorded for you to return to at any time, and it also means that all the information is there when you return to the document next year, to make updating your audit even easier. If you have any difficulties with the E-S175, please contact a member of the Schools Safeguarding Team for support.



Training

The Schools Safeguarding Team will be providing training to any members of your staff who have missed your Whole Staff Safeguarding Training during the first term at school. This is also an opportunity to provide safeguarding training to new members of staff who have joined your setting since September. The training will be delivered virtually and is available to any member of staff. **The training will take place on Tuesday 17th January, 15:45 – 16:45 and the cost per person is £50 but is free to all SLA schools.** If you would like any members of staff to take part in this training, please contact Alyson.webb@northumberland.gov.uk to register.

The Schools Safeguarding Team Training dates for academic year 2022 – 2023 have been updated with extra dates added. Please see the flyer attached to this briefing. The training dates are also available in the training folder of the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site.

Locality Briefings

Locality briefings will continue to be delivered using teams, running from 15:45 – 17:00 and you can attend anyone of the three as the agenda for this term will be the same each session. This term's meetings will be held on 29th, 30th November and 1st December. The agenda is:

- The new threshold document
- Responding to a request for MASH intelligence
- Recent Safeguarding practice reviews and addressing how schools and settings can meet the recommendations

Northumberland Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Contact Details

Please could DSLs make sure that their setting's webpages have the correct contact details for the LADO: The Northumberland LADO can be contacted by email at LADO@northumberland.gov.uk or by telephone on 01670 623979

DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint

All DSLs in Northumberland have been invited to access the **DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint** site. If you are having difficulties accessing the site, please contact Justine Clephane justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk who will be able to support you to gain access. The site is regularly updated, and the following documents have been added to the site since the last full Safe To Learn (Issue 67) was sent out in September:



Attendance Folder:

- Addressing emotionally-based school avoidance
- Working together on school attendance

Harmful Sexual Behaviour Folder

- Safety planning in education – A guide for professionals supporting children following incidents of harmful sexual behaviour
- Safety planning in education template

Healthy Relationships Folder (new folder)

- Healthier Relationships Newsletter
- Challenging victim blaming language and behaviours when dealing with the online experiences of children and young people

LADO Folder (new folder)

- LADO Processes for Northumberland

NCASP – Northumberland Children and Adult's Partnership Folder

- Procedure for the Management of Self Harm and Suicidal Behaviour in Children and Young People
- NCASP Missing Children Protocol

Online Safety Folder

- Online Safety: Filtering and Monitoring

Police Information Folder

- Northumberland Violence Reduction Unit Education Packages brochure

Practice Reviews Folder

- 7 Minute Briefings

Prevent Folder

- Support for those working in education settings with safeguarding responsibilities

Referral Information Folder

- Thresholds Document

Training folder

- Schools Safeguarding Team Training Dates for academic year 2022 – 2023 – Training dates have been updated with extra dates added.
- Multi Agency Safeguarding Training Dates
- NCASP Training

New Offer for SLA schools

To support SLA schools to deliver relevant updates to their staff you will now receive a set of slides at the start of each term, outlining key Northumberland safeguarding information. This will support you to deliver staff training which reflects the local safeguarding agenda.



Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (NCASP) Updates including updates from subgroups

Updated Threshold Document

The new Threshold Document has now been endorsed by the full Safeguarding partnership and is available on the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site. We have invited Catherine MacDonald, who worked with partner agencies to develop the new guidance to attend the locality briefings later this month. It would be helpful if you could read the new guidance before the briefings and come prepared to ask questions.

North and South of Tyne Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures manual

The North and South of Tyne Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures manual has recently been updated, here is a summary of the amendments:

[Allegations Against Staff or Volunteers who Work with Children](#)

This chapter has been updated to reflect Keeping Children Safe in Education regarding allegations that can relate to an adult's behaviour outside work known as transferable risk, and in relation to the importance of sharing any concerns about the behaviour of a person who works with children. Information has been added on the differences between an allegation and a concern.

[Information Sharing](#)

Regional local information has been added.

[Good Practice supporting the Voice of the Child](#)

References to Public Health England have been updated.

[Bruising in Pre/Non-Mobile Children](#) (local information)

Pathway of Care Regarding a Birth Mark including Congenital Dermal Melano cytois (Mongolian Blue Spots MBS) or Suspected Medically Induced Injury (following birth etc) (NHS North East and North Cumbria) has been added.

[Child to Parent Violence and Abuse](#)

Minor amendments have been made in line with local practice and terminology.

[Child Exploitation \(Sexual and Criminal\)](#)

Regional local information has been added.

[Children from Abroad, including Victims of Modern Slavery, Trafficking and Exploitation](#)

A link has been added to CPS Guidance on Victims of Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Smuggling.

[Children of Parents who Misuse Substances](#)

This chapter has been updated. A link has been added to NICE Quality Standard QS204 Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

[Domestic Abuse](#)

Additional links have been added in Further Information.

[E-Safety: Children Exposed to Abuse through the Digital Media](#)

A link has been added to Talking to your Child About Online Sexual Harassment (Children's Commissioner).

[Gang Activity, Youth Violence and Criminal Exploitation Affecting Children](#)

Additional regional information has been added in Local Information.

[Harmful Sexual Behaviour](#)

A link has been added to Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service for the Children's Workforce (Marie Collins Foundation).

Agency Roles and Responsibilities

References to Public Health England have been updated.

Please follow this link to access the procedures manual, and ensure you register for updates:

<https://www.proceduresonline.com/nesubregion/>

Safeguarding Practice Reviews

There have been two reviews recently published and the associated action plans are also available. The 'seven minute guides' reviews, for 'George' and 'Harry' are available on the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site and we will discuss the recommendations, giving advice on how schools can address them at the locality briefings later this month.

International Day of Disabled Persons



Information provided by Ian Walker, Senior Manager for Disabled Children, on behalf of the Safeguarding Disabled Children Subgroup. International Day of Disabled Persons is held each year on 3rd December. The theme this year is **Not all disabilities are visible.**

Some disabilities, like mental health disorders, chronic pain and fatigue, are invisible but that does not make them any less devastating to someone's quality of life. Nor does it mean we shouldn't try to support people who are dealing with these invisible disabilities, in fact it probably means we need to try harder in our day-to-day work and practice to recognise issues people may be having and support in any way that we can.

To celebrate this year's International Day of Disabled Persons we are asking all education settings to do something leading up to 3rd December to not only recognise the day but to make a positive pledge on how they will make a meaningful change in your ways of working to improve things for people dealing with an invisible illness.

The ask is as follows:

1. Ask each setting to undertake an event week commencing 28th November 2022 to look at this - this doesn't have to be grand, a discussion slot in a team meeting, a lunchtime discussion etc is fine - it just needs to be a dedicated time that you can talk with colleagues about the theme, practice in this area, and one pledge that they would like to make.
2. Ensure that you do this yourself to think about your own practice in this area and a pledge that you would like to make.
3. By the end of that week we ask each setting to email Ian with brief details of what you did and the pledge you would like to make. Also, email me your own pledges if done individually.
4. These pledges will then be collated and distributed - we will then ask people to review these over the coming year to see if they are delivering on their pledge.

ian.walker@northumberland.gov.uk

Virtual School Updates

Relationships Matter Conference – Save the Date

In order to support schools and other education settings to use a relational approach and trauma-informed practice to support the needs of all children to feel safe in school, the Northumberland Virtual School are hosting a Relationships Matter conference. The conference is for professionals from Education, Children's Social Care and Health, and will take place on Wednesday 8th March 2023. The keynote speaker at the conference will be Paul Dix, author of the popular book "When the Adults Change Everything Changes". The conference will also include interactive workshops with follow-up support, training and school guidance.

Please follow this link for more information about the day and to meet Paul Dix:

<https://www.relationshipsinnorthumberlandmatter.com/>



Other useful information

Prevent – The Prevent duty: Safeguarding Learners Vulnerable to Radicalisation (DfE)

The DfE has produced updated guidance that reflects learning since the implementation of the prevent Duty in 2015, under section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The guidance is to support DSLs and explains the Prevent referral process and the statutory responsibilities to keep children and young people safe from the risk of extremist ideology and radicalisation. It prepares DSLs to respond effectively and to get support for children and young people who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.

Follow this link to the guidance and to the new resource materials:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-prevent-duty-safeguarding-learners-vulnerable-to-radicalisation>

This link is also available on the **DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint** site, in the Prevent folder.

In partnership with the Community Safety team and the Channel panel we are looking at refreshing the online training offer for education settings, to reflect the local situation and the requirements of the updated guidance

Acorns Domestic Abuse Service for Children Aged 4–18



Update on Acorns Service:

Acorns provide therapeutic support for children aged 4-18 years who have been impacted by domestic abuse, but who are now safe. The service can offer counselling and play therapy, usually a 50-minute session at the same time each week for a period of 8-10 weeks. This support can take place in school, or the children and young people can be seen at an external venue.

The support Acorns is able to offer can make an enormous difference and they have had fantastic feedback from schools, parents/carers, children and young people.

Until recently, Acorns had an extremely long waiting list, but the team are working hard to reduce this and the current wait time is around 4 months. The teamwork in clusters in different areas, so this may be a shorter waiting period depending on the number of referrals in your area. For a referral pack, please email admin@acornsproject.org.uk. If you wish to discuss a referral in advance, please contact Julia Parkinson: Julia@acornsproject.org.uk or telephone on 07521 514456.

Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit – Education Packages



The Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit Education Team have a new Education brochure available. The brochure, and further information about booking sessions in school, is available on the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site. Packages include:

Knife Crime Awareness – KS3 and KS4
Knife Crime Awareness for Practitioners
Malicious Communications – KS3 and KS4
Child Criminal Exploitation – KS3 and KS4
Drugs and Alcohol – KS3 and KS4

Virtual Reality – KS3 and KS4
Packages looking at

- Vulnerability in the night-time economy
- Coercive control
- Knife crime
- Child sexual exploitation

Philosophy for Children – KS2

Safer Internet Day 2023



Safer Internet Day will take place on Tuesday February 2023, the theme will be 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.' To find out more information about Safer Internet Day and to find out how pupils in your school can be involved in the campaign, please follow this link to UK Safer Internet Centre:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/theme-announced-for-safer-internet-day-2023>

Free Barnardo's Contextual Safeguarding and Child Sexual Exploitation

The Local Authority has received information relating to free **Webinars** for all services working with children and young people in Northumbria. This is a joint project run by Tees Valley Service and Orchard Mosaic, funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

There are two sessions available for all education providers

Safeguarding Beyond the School Gate : 28th November 3.30 – 5pm OR 30th January 3:30 - 5pm

Recognising & Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation: 28th November 1:00 – 2:30pm OR 30th January 10:30 – 12 noon.

Additional information and a booking form have been sent to all DSLs

NSPCC Update - NSPCC Speak Out. Stay Safe



Speak Out. Stay Safe. is a FREE online safeguarding programme for children aged 5-11. There are also follow up in-person workshops available for Years 5 and 6. These workshops take one hour and are delivered in classrooms and are dependent on NSPCC volunteer availability.

To find out more about the Speak Out Stay Safe programme, please follow this link:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe>

To book workshops in your school across our Northumberland focus weeks March 20th – March 29th 2023 contact Alison Fisher alison.fisher@NSPCC.org.uk

Take part in Dress up for Digits and have a fun-filled day of maths activities and games, while raising money to support our services such as Speak out Stay safe and Childline. Number Day 2023 Friday 3rd February 2023.

Contact us

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

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Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gov.uk

Justine Clephane, Schools' Safeguarding Consultant, (Tuesday – Friday) 07879 874168

Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk

Vicky Kinneavy, Schools' Safeguarding Consultant, (Monday – Wednesday) 07966 325300

Victoria.Kinneavy@northumberland.gov.uk