



Safeguarding Newsletter

THE SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE EDUCATION SAFEGUARDING TEAM AND ISSUED TO SCHOOLS, EARLY YEARS PROVIDERS AND LOCAL AUTHORITY STAFF THREE TIMES EACH ACADEMIC YEAR

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New Safeguarding Documents

On 26th March 2015, the Department for Education published a set of new and revised safeguarding documents.

The two key documents for safeguarding and child protection are '*Working Together to Safeguard Children*' and '*Keeping Children Safe in Education*'. Both these documents have been revised largely to include legislation that has been enacted since their original publication.

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 clarifies that the guidance applies in its entirety to all schools, including independent schools, academies and free schools, who all have duties in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils, consistent with *Keeping Children Safe in Education*.

Other additions include duties under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015; disqualification regulations; and an increased emphasis on child sexual exploitation.

The management of allegations against staff has altered slightly. Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO) have been re-defined as 'designated officers'. These officers might be teams of people. Although it might sound the same, the designated officers must be part of a coordinated approach to child protection and not isolated from those teams. The designated officer(s) must be qualified social workers (except from those already in post, or moving to a new authority from an existing LADO role). KSCB procedures and Operational Guidelines for allegations management will be updated accordingly.

Two new documents are particularly useful. '*Information Sharing*' aims to ensure that schools and other organisations understand both their duty to share information and when they are prevented from doing so. The document has a useful flowchart and "myth-busting" guidance.

'*What to do if you're worried a child is being abused*' is an update to the 2006 edition. The new document may be helpful to share with new staff during induction in addition to Part 1 of *Keeping Children Safe in Education* which, as you are aware, all staff must be given.

A summary of each of the documents and changes where appropriate including links to the full documents can be accessed below:

[Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015](#)

[Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)

[Information sharing](#)

[What to do if you're worried a child is being abused](#)

We will begin the process of updating our exemplar policies and complete this as soon as possible. Please be mindful however that if you are reviewing these, your documents should reference the new guidance.

Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006

Following the publication of supplementary 'advice' to *Keeping Children safe in Education* by the Department for Education in October 2014, Primary schools have become increasingly concerned about the impact that the Disqualifications Regulations are having on their schools, which has raised anxiety levels about possible failure to comply as this is something that Ofsted are monitoring during inspections since January 2015.

In response to the concerns raised by schools, local authorities and settings to this supplementary advice, and after a small scale consultation process, the government published revised guidance on 26 February 2015. Links to the full document and some practice guidance prepared by the local authority can be accessed below.

[Practice Guidance for Schools and Settings](#)

[Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006](#)

Female Genital Mutilation

There are new legislative measures being brought through the Serious Crime Act 2015 which will strengthen the legislative framework around tackling FGM.

According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), there are an estimated 130 million women and girls living with FGM worldwide. Most of these women are located in 29 African countries. In the UK, FGM is increasingly identified amongst migrants from FGM-practising countries. There are an estimated 137,000 women in the UK affected by FGM.

Professionals in all agencies, individuals and groups in relevant communities, need to be alert to the possibility of a girl being at risk of FGM, or already having suffered FGM. There is a range of potential indicators that a child or young person may be at risk of FGM, which individually may not indicate risk but if there are two or more indicators present this could signal a risk to the child or young person. Victims of FGM are likely to come from a community that is known to practise FGM.

Professionals should note that girls at risk of FGM may not yet be aware of the practice or that it may be conducted on them, so sensitivity should always be shown when approaching the subject. Warning signs that FGM may be about to take place, or may have already taken place, can be found on pages 16-17 of the Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines accessible via the link <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/female-genital-mutilation-guidelines>

New Department of Health Guidance is available via the following link

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418564/2903800_DH_FGM_Accessible_v0.1.pdf

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, due to come into force on July 1st, places a duty on schools "to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". Schools have a vital role to play in protecting pupils from the risks of extremism and radicalisation and keeping children safe should be approached in the same way as safeguarding children from other risks.

To help schools and Early Years settings meet the requirements of the Act we recommend the South East Counter Terrorism Unit (SECTU) toolkit is completed which can be found on Kelsi: [Education-Prevent-Assessment-SECTU-Tool.pdf](#)

This will also help provide the evidence needed for Ofsted and the ISI purposes.

If you have any questions on the requirements of the Act, please contact your Area Safeguarding Adviser in the first instance.

e-Safety Update

On the 20th March 2015 the Home Office published a new guide that has been developed for professionals who work with young people, to help them understand what constitutes abusive behaviour online, the consequences of that behaviour, and where they can get help.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/online-abuse-and-bullying-prevention-guide>

The e-Safety Strategy group is currently reviewing the Kent e-Safety Policy Template for September 2015. Schools and safeguarding leads are encouraged to contact the e-Safety Officer directly if they have any requests or queries. To help Child Protection Coordinators keep up-to-date with new resources, reports and guidance relating to online safety, they can access and subscribe to the Kent e-Safety blog: <https://kentesafety.wordpress.com/>

The e-Safety officer is seeking examples of good practice e-Safety work in schools to develop a series of case studies and would like to invite schools to make contact if they feel they have any examples or experiences to share. The e-Safety officer is also looking to develop the e-Safety blog with a series of frequently asked questions (such as responding to concerns or developing staff confidence) and would welcome input or requests from schools.

Ofsted Section 5 briefing

The briefing document for Section 5 inspections “Inspecting Safeguarding in maintained schools and academies” has been updated and can be accessed via the link below. The Disqualification guidance is referenced in paragraphs 37 to 41.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-safeguarding-in-maintained-schools-and-academies-briefing-for-section-5-inspections>

Kent Safeguarding Children Board networking workshops

These were brought to your attention in the last Newsletter. KSCB are running networking workshops throughout the county to enable frontline staff to explore key safeguarding issues and to understand the Safeguarding Board’s priorities for 2014/2015. These events provide an opportunity for practitioners to share concerns and views which can be used to influence strategic planning and policy development.

Learning from serious case reviews, management reviews and issues throughout the county will be shared, with an opportunity for practitioners to highlight key issues from local areas. Findings from the workshops will be fed back to the Safeguarding Board and used to improve practice and multi-agency working.

Further dates for workshops have been set. If you have not already done so we encourage you, where possible to book onto a workshop within the district that you work so that you are able to make the most of the networking opportunity. Places at the workshops should be booked via CPD online. Details can be accessed using the links below.

MA 15/213 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 22/04/2015 09:30-11:30 Calverley House Bus. /Conf. Cent Tunbridge Wells

MA 15/214 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 22/04/2015 14:00-16:00 Grange Moor Hotel, Maidstone

MA 15/215 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 19/05/2015 09:30-11:30 Folkestone Town Hall, Folkestone

MA 15/216 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 19/05/2015 14:00-16:00 The Ark Christian Centre, Dover

MA 15/217 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 05/06/2015 10:00-12:00 MIDAS Centre Meadowfield School, Sittingbourne

MA 15/218 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 05/06/2015 14:00-16:00 Riverside Community Resource Trust, Gravesend

MA 15/219 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 20/07/2015 09:30-11:30 Stone Pavilion, Dartford

MA 15/220 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 21/08/2015 09:30-11:30 Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre, Canterbury

MA 15/221 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 22/10/2015 09:30-11:30 Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Ashford

MA 15/222 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 22/10/2015 14:00-16:00 The Orchards East Malling Events Venue, Tonbridge & Malling

MA 15/223 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 11/11/2015 09:30-11:30 Shorne Wood Country Park, Gravesend

MA 15/224 Safeguarding Partnership Networking Event 03/12/2015 09:30-11:30 Marsh Academy Community Hub – Marsh Academy, New Romney

Child Protection Conferences

As we approach the end of the academic year we have been asked by our Independent Child Protection Conference Chair colleagues to remind you about the importance of ensuring that you contribute to any Conferences that will take place over the summer holiday break. It is acknowledged that many Designated staff go to great lengths to attend meetings over this period. If you are not able to send a representative however, please make sure that your role in the Child Protection plan is clearly recorded in Core Group records and that you provide a report for the Conference that covers the school's actions up to the end of the academic year.

Child Sexual Exploitation

The new version of the CSE toolkit is accessible on the KSCB website, from the following link: now available in an electronic form as well as a PDF Document.

http://kscb.org.uk/professionals/sexual_exploitation.aspx

NSPCC ChildLine Assembly Event – 7th July

Many schools will have used the free Service for Primary schools which has been available from Childline for some months now. The service is aimed at children aged 9 to 11 years and seeks to raise awareness of abuse and how to seek help and support.

The NSPCC (ChildLine) Schools Service are now planning an event for Tuesday 7th July in Canterbury. These events bring together clusters of local schools in one venue, where messages about keeping safe from abuse, and where to go for help, can be provided on a much larger scale. Flyer below.

The NSPCC Schools Service Big Assembly Kent University (Woolf College – The Pavilion) 7th July 2015

The NSPCC's hugely successful Schools Service is protecting children in primary schools across the UK right now. However, we need to do more to reach every single child in order to protect an entire generation. Therefore, whilst a key part of our service focusses on delivering in schools, we are also running Big Assemblies across London and the South East. These events bring together clusters of local schools in one venue, where we will deliver our messages about keeping safe from abuse, and where to go for help, on a much larger scale.

In January this year we held our first Big Assembly at the Lee Valley Velodrome in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The event was an unqualified success and we saw 660 children in one morning.



On 7th July we are holding a Big Assembly at the University of Kent. We will run a morning and afternoon session and hope to see up to 600 children in one day. As with our in-school service, the NSPCC will provide this event free of charge. Here is the itinerary for the day:

- 10.00am First Session Arrives
- 10.15am Assembly
- 10.45 Break
- 11.00 Workshops
- 12.00 First Session Leaves
- 13.00 Second Session Arrives
- 13.15 Assembly
- 13.45 Break
- 14.00 Workshops
- 15.00 Second Session Leaves



If you have any questions or would like more information about the event please contact Rose Bray on 07976 065 226 or email Rose.Bray@NSPCC.org.uk

EYPS – Safeguarding in Education Contacts – April 2015

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Central Duty: 03000 41 11 11

Urgent child protection issue outside of office hours,
Call the **Central Duty** Out of Hours Number: **03000 41 91 91**

Early Help & Preventative Services:
earlyhelp@kent.gov.uk or ring 03000 419222