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### Welcome

This is a slightly later newsletter due to recent events related to Covid-19. Whilst a lot of the content is related to this subject, there is plenty that remains relevant for all safeguarding issues in settings that we felt that you needed to be aware of. As stated in previous newsletters, we will ensure that you receive the relevant guidance and updates that you need to continue providing high quality safeguarding practice in your organisations. We will continue to update policy templates to reflect any national updates and changes as they arise.

In all the articles below we include links to external websites, and these will often be in [blue text](#) for you to click on so you can then read the full information regarding that topic. Please tell us if you have any issues with any of the links provided.

If you are aware of any DSLs in your setting who are not being sent this newsletter, please contact the team and we will add you to our database.

### The Education People

The Education People provide services to support early years through to young adults with over 800 products and services available. For more information, visit: [www.theeducationpeople.org](http://www.theeducationpeople.org).

### Reminder: Register on the Education People Blog for Safeguarding Updates

DSLs can register on the Education People website to receive an email when a new Safeguarding [blog post](#) is added. If you are already registered, you can opt to add email notification under your 'my account' settings.

### Education Safeguarding Service

The education safeguarding advisors are available for consultations from 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday. If urgent consultations in relation to the welfare of a child are required outside of this period, schools and settings should contact the Integrated Front Door or Out of Hours service. We are not a term time only service and are available for ongoing support and advice.

Be advised that all the advisors remain on duty throughout this time, including bank holidays, so any advice you need can be sought from us. Contact details are on Kelsi and at the bottom of this newsletter.

We are happy to welcome a new member of staff to our service, Hazell Ball, the new Education Safeguarding Assistant for the South and East area of Kent.

A reminder that all our services and products that we can now offer to educational settings can be found on the [TEP website](#). Although, safeguarding is a competitive market with many providers out there we feel that we can provide training, assessments and guidance unique to working within Kent County Council that cannot be provided by other providers. If you are unable to find what you would like on this link, please contact us and we can look at designing something bespoke for your setting.

## Covid-19 Advice

As this is an ever-changing situation with advice changing daily, if not hourly, we urge you to follow the advice issued by your Area Education Officer (AEO), highlighting the guidance available online from Public Health England (PHE). This information can be found on [Kelsi](#).

### NEW DfE Guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers



#### Draft - Keeping children safe in education

Statutory guidance for schools and colleges

For information: This guidance will be published on 1 September 2020 and all schools/colleges will be advised. Until then schools and colleges must continue to follow KCSIE 2016.

Updated guidance '[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers](#)' (27<sup>th</sup> March 2020) has been provided and sent out to all settings. Because of the Covid-19 the government has suspended the 2020 Keeping children safe in education (KCSIE) consultation.

The Department for Education COVID-19 helpline is available to answer questions: 0800 046 8687. Lines are open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm and weekends 10am to 4pm. Please have your unique reference number (URN or UK PRN) available when calling the hotline.

In terms of safeguarding children, we have created a [Covid-19 safeguarding toolkit](#) for Education Settings. It is a toolkit developed using a range of resources with the aim of helping settings to think through what safeguarding arrangements may need to be made for our vulnerable families. We have sent it directly to all DSLs we have on our database. This should be used in conjunction with existing guidance provided by Kent and Medway Safeguarding Procedures to be found on [www.kscmp.org.uk](http://www.kscmp.org.uk)

We have also published a [Child Protection Policy Addendum](#) for schools and colleges to use and adapt.

The advice we gave in last summer's newsletter before the summer holidays is relevant here but is repeated below:

Now is a good time for Safeguarding Leads and their teams to review the children and young people they have had concerns about over recent months:

- have you liaised with their parents/carers or other professionals where appropriate?
- have you considered all the information you hold holistically, considering all concerns, risks and all protective factors?
- what is your analysis of need; are there supports that need to be put in place for the duration of the break, have you spoken with the child/young person and heard their views wishes and any worries they may have?

- are there services you can refer the family to such as foodbanks, Citizens advice and similar local charities if they have financial worries.
- does the parent need to know about services to protect and support where alcohol or domestic abuse is involved?
- Are they aware of services such as the Samaritans or other listening services for those who are experiencing poor mental health or emotional wellbeing?

If you have concerns about a child not in school, you can consult with your area safeguarding advisor or you could explore any services and resources available. To help you with this and attached below are the links for all the children's centres, youth hubs and Open Access managers in your areas.



New OA list.pptx

If your analysis indicates that there is a need for social care assessments, make sure your request for support is made in a timely fashion. Remember social care will need time to triage your referral and by making your referral at an earlier stage, it allows time for further communication and information gathering if needed.

In order to help Front Door services and other agencies such as police and health please can you ensure that school websites and answer phone messages make it clear who can be contacted if the school is closed or there is reduced admin cover.

## DSL Training

At this time, updated guidance has been provided by the government, in which they have recognised that it is not currently possible for Designated Safeguarding Leads to attend the relevant refresher training. Therefore, *"It is acknowledged that DSL training is very unlikely to take place during this period (although the option of online training can be explored). For the period COVID-19 measures are in place, a DSL (or deputy) who has been trained will continue to be classed as a trained DSL (or deputy) even if they miss their refresher training"*: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers](#)

As a service, we continue to develop e-learning resources for settings and will also explore the possibility that even as schools return and guidance changes, whether DSL and other training can be delivered in different ways other than face to face. If DSLs have training queries or requests, please contact your area safeguarding advisor.

## Operation Encompass changes

In the current circumstances, families are facing increased pressures as a result of Covid-19 restrictions. This means that some children who may be vulnerable could be at increased risk and might be less able to access support which would ordinarily be more available to them. In order to best respond to this, Kent Police have widened the scope of information shared within the Operation Encompass scheme. Further details are in the document below.



COVID-19\_Op\_Encompass\_\_2020.doc

### Kent Together Helpline

A new 24-hour helpline has been set up to support vulnerable people in Kent who need urgent help, supplies or medication. The helpline – called Kent Together – provides a single, convenient point of contact for anyone in the county who is in urgent need of help during the Coronavirus outbreak. It is a collaboration between KCC, central Government, District, Borough and local councils, the voluntary and community sector, the NHS, emergency services and other partners to ensure help is at hand for vulnerable people.

If you or someone you know are vulnerable and have an urgent need that cannot be met through existing support networks, you can contact the Kent Together helpline at: [www.kent.gov.uk/KentTogether](http://www.kent.gov.uk/KentTogether) or by calling on 03000 41 92 92.

### Coronavirus scams prevention

The National Trading Standards (NTS) Scams Team has produced some helpful materials to help promote scams awareness around coronavirus (COVID-19) scams at this difficult time. The team has released a press release around criminals exploiting fears about coronavirus to prey on members of the public, particularly older and vulnerable people who are isolated from family and friends. Please share amongst your partners, groups, communities and social media platforms.

- [Link to the updated FAS training materials](#)
- [Press release on the NTS website](#)
- Press release on [Our Friends Against Scams](#) website

If you become aware of any scams relating to Covid-19 please contact Kent Police or Action Fraud at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) Tel :03001232040

### Find a foodbank tool using a postcode

It would be a good idea for schools and settings to put a link to the find a [foodbank tool](#) on their websites for families

### Childline

Considering recent events there are numerous resources available from a variety of sources including the NSPCC and the BBC Bitesize in relation to the emotional wellbeing of children and their families. The Childline website has lots of valuable information, but an especially useful tool is their [Calm Zone](#). The activities aim to help children feel better when they're feeling anxious, scared or sad. Although children could be encouraged to visit the website themselves, these are good techniques for adults to use with children. Ideas include breathing exercises, a 'let it go' box and creating a 'sense drawer'.

### Salus

The Salus Youth Team are offering [virtual youth sessions](#) to young people aged between 8-19 years. The sessions include language lessons, make up tutorials, quizzes and fun games with new topics and suggestions being added each week.

## Kent Police Domestic Abuse Poster

Kent Police and Kent's Safeguarding Children multi-agency partnership have produced a Kent Police DA / COVID-19 poster.



DA isolation  
poster.pdf

The Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service is continuing to deliver remote support to individuals and take referrals for all services (although referrals will only be accepted if remote working with the client is possible). They will signpost to other suitable organisations where appropriate or consult on support. Remote working includes using technology and telephone systems to deliver support services.

As of 20.3.20 Refuge services will continue to offer emergency refuge space to women and families, but this is under constant review and risk assessment. Due to government guidance they are delivering remote IDVA support to MARAC and One Stop Shops.

### When to call the police: advice for schools

The National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) have published guidance for schools and colleges regarding [when to call the police](#).

This advice aims to support schools and college to make defensible decisions when considering whether to involve the police and covers incidents on school and college premises where students have potentially committed a crime.

It provides guidance on what schools and colleges should bear in mind when considering contacting the police and covers the following situations:

- Assault
- Criminal damage
- Cybercrime
- Drugs
- Harassment
- Sexual offences
- Theft
- Weapons



### Talking to young people about healthy relationships



Controlling Behaviour  
in Relationships

Talking to young people about healthy relationships

AVON

Women's 100  
Available online

As a parent and as a teacher we cannot protect young people from the complexities of being in a relationship with friends and more intimate relationships. We cannot protect them from every insult and argument; it's an important part of growing up. However, as part of recognising Peer on Peer abuse and healthy relationship work it's vital to be aware of the difference between behaviour that can be thought of as 'rites of passage' and behaviour which has more serious implications.

Ideally young women, young men and teenagers should have relationships that are free from abuse. Educating young people and teenagers about domestic abuse is one of the most effective ways of preventing abuse in future relationships. A

free resource for parents and staff in education is provided by [Women's aid in conjunction with Avon](#).

## Schools Link Programme

The Link Programme is a major DfE national initiative being rolled out over four years starting from September 2019 to all schools and colleges in England. The programme aims to bring together local education and mental health professionals from across the CCG, so that more children and young people get the help and support they need, when they need it.

Kent County Council believe this exciting programme will help them to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people across the CCG and will act to facilitate closer collaboration between schools and colleges and those providing mental health support. Mental health leads from participating schools and colleges will attend two day-long workshops alongside mental health professionals to facilitate joint working and share best practice.

The full evaluation report and short animation about the Link Programme is available on the [Anna Freud website](#).

View further information on the [Canterbury](#) and [Thanet](#) workshops.

## Think Differently



Given the identified increase in County Lines, it is timely to remind schools of services available. Think Differently uses real life stories and experiences from volunteers and sessional workers with previous drug and alcohol addictions, ex-offenders and current prison volunteers, to engage with young people to raise awareness of the issues and potential consequences of alcohol and substance misuse.

To book a session, call 01622 814187, email

[christy.bishop@kenwardtrust.org.uk](mailto:christy.bishop@kenwardtrust.org.uk) or visit [www.thinkdifferentlykent.co.uk](http://www.thinkdifferentlykent.co.uk)

Please Note: services above may have changed their response times and how they are delivered due to the changes now in place as a result of Covid-19.

## Early Years

We understand many early years settings may now be closed due to Covid-19 but those that remain open should continue to make use of all possible resources detailed in this newsletter and continue to contact their relevant contacts in TEP Early Years as well as the Safeguarding Advisor if they need any advice.

### Childminders: report new adults in the home

As a childminder you must tell Ofsted about new people aged 16 or over who live or work in the home you look after children in within 14 days. This includes children who turn 16. The link to the full advice and document is here: [Childminders: report new adults in the home](#)

## Safer Remote Learning

In response to Covid-19, many schools will be looking to offer some element of remote contact to enable the community to access educational content and pastoral support. Technology use during this time needs to be carefully managed by leaders in order to safeguard everyone involved.

The education safeguarding service has put together some [best practice advice](#) to help DSLs and leaders consider how best to safely manage remote learning.

## Online Safety Policy Template Update

There has been an ongoing discussion regarding the status of the online safety policy template over the past few months and the Education Safeguarding Service have decided that they will continue to offer the mobile technology and social media elements of the policy to all settings. The mobile technology and social media policy template, along with the Acceptable Use Policy templates are available for schools and settings to access via [Kelsi](#).

## Contextual Safeguarding Network Video: 'Sexting in schools: responses to abuse through image sharing'

The [Contextual Safeguarding Network](#) have produced a short video which presents research findings from the Contextual Safeguarding project on school responses to sexual image sharing. The video contains several suggestions for schools; DSLs may find it helpful to review current practice. Click [here](#) to watch.



## Childline 'Report Remove' Tool

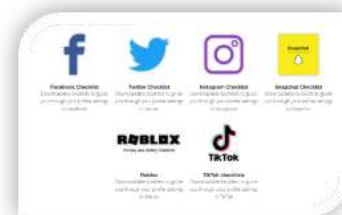
Childline has launched 'Report Remove', a service that allows children and young people under 18 to report and get removed from the internet a nude image or video of themselves that might have been shared online. The [webpage](#) includes links to services and information offering emotional and safeguarding support. DSLs should continue to respond to concerns relating to youth produced sexual imagery in line with the UKCIS ['sexting in schools and colleges' guidance](#) but may wish to highlight this resources to learners.

## Childnet 2020 Film Competition Launched

The Childnet Film Competition is open to all UK schools and youth organisations and invites young people aged 7-18 to take on the challenge of creating a short film in response to this year's theme: "We want an internet where we're free to...". The competition may be a useful activity to set pupils undertaking remote learning during Covid-19 measures. For further information, please visit the [Childnet](#) website.

## New and Updated Social Media Checklists

The South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) have updated some of their [popular social media checklists](#), include two new leaflets for Roblox and TikTok. The guides are free to download and use and can be ordered in hard copy through the SWGfL website at a cost. DSLs may find these leaflets helpful to share with pupils and parents/carers to provide balanced advice on safer usage of popular apps.



## Other Useful Online Safety Links and Resources

- BBC: [KS4 Digital Literacy resources](#)
- SWGfL: ['Let's talk about porn' KS3 resource](#)
- BBC: [TikTok 'family safety mode' gives parents some app control](#)
- Childnet:
  - [Explore online safety with under 5s with our new learning to read book](#)
  - [Supporting young people with SEND online – New hot topic](#)
- Parent Zone and GambleAware: [Gaming or Gambling](#)
- Internet Matters and Instagram: [Addressing the Pressure to be Perfect toolkit – for parents](#)
- PHE: [Social media resources for year 6 and KS3/4](#)

In relation to the challenges now being faced due to many children being taught at home via the use of online resources we would direct you the [online blog](#) on the TEP website from Rebecca Avery.

**Finally, if you have any questions on the articles, or the need for safeguarding advice, please contact the team using the details provided. Keep yourself safe in these difficult times!**

**This safeguarding newsletter is published by the Education Safeguarding Service and issued to schools, early years providers and local authority staff. For this newsletter to be effective, please ensure that it is shared with staff, including all Designated Safeguarding Leads.**



<b>Head Office: Room 2.30 Sessions House County Hall Maidstone ME14 1XQ</b>	
<b>Claire Ray</b> Head of Service	<b>03000 415788 (07920108828)</b>
<b>Peter Lewer</b> Training & Development Manager - On secondment	<b>03000 418707</b>
<b>Online Safety - Rebecca Avery</b>	<b>03000 415797 (07789968705)</b>
<p><b>For advice on safeguarding issues please call your area office on the numbers listed below. If a child may be at risk of <b>imminent harm</b> you should call the <b>Integrated Front Door on 03000 411111</b> or the <b>Police on 999</b></b></p>	
<b>Ashford</b>	<b>03000 415648 (07917602413)</b>
<b>Canterbury</b>	<b>03000 418503 (07740183798)</b>
<b>Dartford</b>	<b>03000 412445 (0791531800)</b>
<b>Dover</b>	<b>03000 415648 (07917602413)</b>
<b>Folkestone &amp; Hythe</b>	<b>03000 415648 (07917602413)</b>
<b>Gravesham</b>	<b>03000 412445 (0791531800)</b>
<b>Maidstone</b>	<b>03000 412284 (07540677200)</b>
<b>Sevenoaks</b>	<b>03000 412445 (0791531800)</b>
<b>Swale</b>	<b>03000 418503 (07740183798)</b>
<b>Thanet</b>	<b>03000 418503 (07740183798)</b>
<b>Tonbridge &amp; Malling</b>	<b>03000 412284 (07540677200)</b>
<b>Tunbridge Wells</b>	<b>03000 412284 (07540677200)</b>

**Integrated Front Door: 03000 411111** (outside office hours **03000 419191**)  
**Early Help Contacts** (district teams) can be found on [www.kelsi.org.uk](http://www.kelsi.org.uk)

## Local Authority Designated Officer Contacts

If a call is urgent i.e. **a child is in immediate danger**, and the call **cannot** go through to the officer on **Duty**, the call should go through to the **Integrated Front Door on 03000 41 11 11**

Calls for **child protection training, querying procedures and policies or general child protection concerns** should be transferred to the appropriate Area Safeguarding Advisor.

**LADO Team contact number: 03000 410888**

Now it's just one number for the whole LADO Team covering Kent Local Authority

Email: [kentchildrenslado@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentchildrenslado@kent.gov.uk)

**Kroner House, Eurogate Business Park, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8XU**

### Area Education Officers

**South Kent** – David Adams 03000 414989

**East Kent** – Marisa White 03000 418794

**West Kent** – Nicholas Abrahams 03000 412209

**North Kent** – Ian Watts 03000 414302