

Child Protection Newsletter

ISSUE NO. 67 January 2019

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Welcome and Team Update

Welcome to the second of three safeguarding newsletters this 2018/2019 academic year. Firstly, we have had a name change; we are now the Education Safeguarding Service which reflects that we are a provider of a variety of services to educational settings beyond consultations and advice.

Secondly, there has been a personnel change within the Education Safeguarding Service since the last newsletter with Jonathan Hogben having left the team to live his new life in New Zealand. His role as the Education Advisor in South has been filled by Claire Ledger who started in December. We also welcome Ashley Assiter, Online Safety Development Officer, back from maternity leave.

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. These are currently available on [Kelsi](#).

As part of training we ask that all attendees provide evaluations of the day and many of you are enjoying the changes we have made. We take on board your feedback and continue to adapt our training appropriately.

The Education People

The Education Safeguarding Service is part of the “The Education People”. Having gone live on September 1st, The Education People is a one-stop shop for education services, working in association with Kent County Council. 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.

Given the transition to the new company our @kent.gov.uk email domain will be phased out over the next couple of months. Please update your records to reflect these changes so that you can continue to contact the education safeguarding service. For example, an email to Robin would now be addressed to: robin.brivio@theeducationpeople.org

Reminder: Register on the Education People Blog for Safeguarding Updates

DSL's 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.

The Front Door / Support Levels Guidance

As you will be aware, the Front Door and the process "Request for Support" to its Early Help and Children's Social Work Teams went live on 1st October 2018. We include advice around the process within our training that we deliver to Kent settings.

As with all new processes and ways of working, it brings new challenges; we continue to work closely with our colleagues at the Front Door to ensure that we can make the process as smooth as possible. As part of this, we have been asked to advise those seeking to make a 'request for support' take advice from their local area safeguarding advisor in the first instance instead of seeking a consultation from the Front Door. By discussing it with our service, we can advise you as to the best way to proceed.

Further advice and guidance regarding 'requests for support' is available at www.kscb.org.uk

Online Safety

Safer Internet Day 2019 –Tuesday 5th February: Education Packs Available

[Safer Internet Day \(SID\) 2019](#) will take place on Tuesday 5th February 2019, with the global theme of 'Together for a better internet'.

The UK Safer Internet Centre has created a range of new educational resources to support educators. Free to download, the [resources are tailored for 3-18 year olds](#) and looks at the topic of consent online, and the ways that we ask for, give and receive permission on the internet. There are [4 education packs for young people](#), a pack for [parents and carers](#), and [a pack to support educators](#), and contain lesson plans, assemblies, posters, and other quick activities to engage young people in Safer Internet Day.

Don't forget to register your school as a [Safer Internet Day 2019 Supporter!](#)

Think U Know Harmful Sexual Behaviour survey

In the new year, CEOP will be developing a new Thinkuknow resource to help prevent negative sexual behaviour amongst young people. This can occur on a continuum, from 'inappropriate' to 'problematic' to 'abusive'. It can occur in relationships and within peer groups and is also known as 'Harmful Sexual Behaviour' (HSB).

CEOP are looking for professionals to share their experiences related to this issue by completing a short survey to help them to understand what types of HSB are most prevalent, what is currently being done to tackle it and what professionals think will help prevent it. Click [here](#) to complete the survey.

New Digital Parenting Guide Available

[Digital Parenting](#) is a free online safety guide, created by The Vodafone Foundation and Parent Zone. It is packed with important information and expert advice on issues relating to Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 4, including:

- Managing children's sleep and setting digital boundaries
- How children can enjoy a safer start on social media
- Better family communication around tech
- Expert advice on gaming addiction, self-harm and virtual reality
- Creating a better family digital-life balance

Digital Parenting is free for UK schools and youth and family organisations to distribute to the parents and carers they work with. Due to the huge demand Parent Zone are currently out of stock of [hard copies](#) but an electronic version is available to [download](#) and share.

Reporting Online Harmful Content

[Reporting harmful online content](#) is a new tool provided by [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) and operated by [SWGfL](#).

This service has been designed to;

- Provide information on community standards
- Give advice on how to report problems
- Mediate where appropriate or explain why content hasn't been removed
- Provide assistance in removing harmful content from platforms

The online tool can be used by young people (under 13's will need parent or guardian to complete the form on their behalf) or parents/carers to report a range of online concerns including impersonation, bullying, pornography and self-harm content.

The online tool will guide people through the reporting process and offer appropriate advice. The service will aim to respond to enquiries within 72 hours however it may take longer to fully investigate and resolve the incident. If the matter cannot be resolved, wherever an explain will be given as to why it's not possible to seek mediation (for example if the matter doesn't breach a sites terms) and will signpost to services who can provide wraparound support.

Recent Online Safety Blog Posts

- [Online Safety Briefing: Term 2 – 2018-19](#)
- [Online Safety at Christmas 2018: Template Letter](#)
- [Online Sexual Harassment – new Hot Topic from Childnet](#)
- [CyberFirst Girls Competition 2019](#)
- [NewsWise: New KS2 'fake news' Resource](#)
- [#Goldilocks: A fairy tale for the digital age](#)
- [The Health Impacts of Screen Time: New Guidance Published for Parents](#)

Safeguarding Conference 28.11.18 (Maidstone)

The service held another successful Safeguarding Conference in Maidstone in November which brought together professional safeguarding leads in schools. Subjects covered on the day included key speakers; Gillie Heath discussed safeguarding gender variant children and trans young people in our schools, Detective Chief Inspector Ivan Beasley from Kent Police delivered an overview of the police investigation into the death of Child D and Serious Case Review, and Nick Pell from Kent Police presented an informative piece on Gangs. Finally, the service closed the conference with updates for DSL's regarding local and national changes.

For the next three events this academic year, we will also have an informative session from Addaction regarding mental health in schools which will cover why schools should openly discuss children and young people's mental health, what is self-harm, strategies and resources for young people and developing your own knowledge as a DSL.

Our most recent conference in November 2018 was evaluated by 100% of delegates as being excellent or good and 100% considered it to be useful or as having an impact on future working practice.

A summary of the feedback received included:

"The quality of speakers was excellent"

"Police speaking about the serious case review was hard hitting but very interesting and useful my role as a DSL"

"Informative speakers who were able to provide both a national and local overview of current safeguarding issues "

"Really helpful to hear from different professional's experience"

"All of the speakers made me further question working practice and consider how my school could improve on this."

"Great to share good practice with colleagues and find out more about transgender, gangs and new front door policy"

"Improved my understanding of current safeguarding themes within Kent and gave me an opportunity to reflect on current practice within my school."

"All very useful up-to-date information, thank you!"

Book now!

05/03/19 – Mercure Dartford Brands Hatch Hotel

03/04/19 – Kent Event Centre (Detling)

05/06/19 – Hythe Imperial Hotel & Spa

Complaints' Policy Guidance (DfE) Maintained Schools Only

The Department of Education has updated its best practice guidance for [school complaints procedures](#). Aimed at governing bodies in all maintained schools and maintained nursery schools in England (not independent schools, free schools or academies).

The guidance is aimed at understanding the difference between a concern and a complaint; information about parental responsibility; the use of recording devices; and barring from school premises.

Safeguarding Autistic children and young people (National Autistic Society)

The guide aims to complement existing policies and procedures and will provide specific information and guidance in relation to children and young people with autism

Safer Recruitment

A common query that we receive is regarding carrying out [references and criminal checks for education staff who come from overseas](#) who may not be UK nationals and/or are UK nationals who have spent significant periods of time overseas.

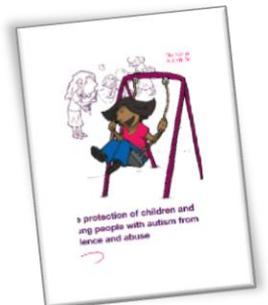
A valid certificate is required from the relevant authority in any country where the applicant has been present for 12 months or more in the 10 years before the date of application.

Most countries have procedures for the issuing of criminal record certificates to their own citizens and to third country nationals living there. Separate guidance on the availability of a [criminal record certificate for individual countries](#) is available.

At the time of writing it is unclear how Brexit will impact on 'free movement of EU citizens' into the UK to work.

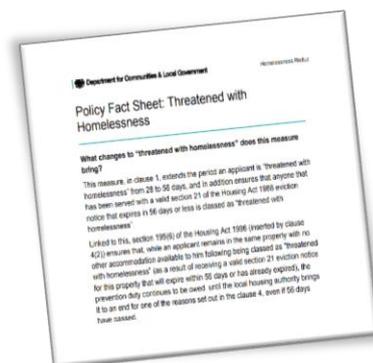
Homeless Reduction Act (HRA) 2018

As part of the training we deliver we always highlight under KCSIE 2018 the new requirement to consider issues around homelessness and how this impacts on a child. The HRA sets out a framework for the biggest changes to homeless legislation since the 1977 Act. Crucial for settings to be aware of are the following:



- A council is required to take a homeless application far earlier (56 day rather than 28 days prior to risk of homelessness). This increases the chances of that early help being successful.
- If someone is homeless or threatened with it there is a duty for councils to provide real help-take 'reasonable steps'
- Families must have that help set out in a personal plan that has been developed to reflect that applicants needs and circumstances.
- A family can only be intentionally homeless if the duty to help them find somewhere to live fails.
- If the council are able to find suitable accommodation secured for at least 6 months this ends the council's duties.

Areas such as Dartford are developing Multi-agency holistic approaches to homeless applications seeking to involve CAB, Children's Services, Early Help, domestic abuse services, Floating Support, Mental Health and Porchlight. There is now a duty on partner agencies such as schools and nurseries to make a referral to their local council should they be concerned about a family at risk of homelessness.



The department for Communities & Local Government have produced a [Threatened with Homelessness](#) factsheet which DSLs might find helpful.

Brexit

As we get nearer to the date that the Government has determined we leave the European Union, it is prudent that schools, PRUs and Early Years settings begin to plan for the possibility of disruption that might follow our departure.

A briefing is available on [Kelsi](#) which advises the initial steps that should be taken to ascertain how ready you are to manage any challenges to your capacity to maintain a full service to your young people. Kent's position as host to Dover, Sheerness, Kent Thameside, Dartford crossing, Eurotunnel, two Eurostar stations, the M20, M25, M2/A2 and M26 might mean that any impact could be greater here than elsewhere in the UK. For example, if traffic increase and roads become gridlocked this may impact on staff being able to get to work.

It may be that there is no disruption, but the suggested preparation would be beneficial in other areas of resilience planning, not least of which is the possibility of disruption from extreme weather or flooding.

County Lines/Exploitation

County Lines is a serious issue where criminal gangs set up a drug dealing operation in a place outside their usual operating area. Gangs may move their drug dealing from big cities (e.g. London, Manchester, Liverpool etc.) to smaller towns; this bring serious criminal behaviour and therefore can affect the community who lives there.

Gangs may recruit and use children and young people to move drugs and money for them. Children may be recruited using social media and be exploited to carry drugs between locations, usually on trains or coaches; they may also be coerced to sell drugs to local users. Gangs and county lines is related to high levels of children going missing.

A recent Home Office funded pilot project to tackle "county lines" crime in Kent, resulted in the number of missing episodes in Dover falling from 123 to 49 just four months after the interventions began. Meanwhile, in Thanet numbers fell from 16 a month to just five.

Delivered in partnership by charities St Giles Trust and Missing People, the County Lines Pilot Project saw case workers deliver face-to-face support to vulnerable children to help them exit county lines activity from September 2017 to March 2018. By the end of the pilot, 38 children and their families in two areas of Kent, and three in London, had received support, while seven children and 20 families received in-depth phone services. As a result, Kent police and crime commissioner Matthew Scott has allocated £45,000 to ensure casework continues until April 2019.

One of the key findings of the pilot revealed changes in the way youth workers understand county lines to operate, as instead of children travelling out of London to deal drugs in Kent, they discovered gang leaders had established "hubs" and were recruiting children in local communities. It is hoped that the work in Thanet and Dover can be replicated in other parts of Kent such as North Kent which is currently experiencing an increase in issues relating to county lines.

It is key for all educational settings to be aware that in the pilot it was identified that all the young people involved were outside of mainstream education, 70% were under the Youth Offending Service, and 60% had a diagnosed or undiagnosed disability (ADHD, deafness, autism, dyslexia), with a small number having Education, Health & Care Plans in place

However, all children in school remain at risk from criminal exploitation. It has been identified in some parts of Kent that gang members have targeted young people from more affluent backgrounds, and specifically those not known to police to be 'money mules. In these cases, young people allow their bank account to be used by others to transfer money in and out of it, and in return, keep a percentage of money for themselves.

Key Statistics

- Figures from [Cifas](#) (a not-for-profit fraud prevention organisation) show there has been a 24% increase in young people under 21 being involved in fraud either as a victim or perpetrator from 2015 to 2017
- There has been a 58% increase in identity fraud victims aged 21 and under from 2015 to 2017.
- 41% of money mule accounts are linked to young people aged 25 or below.
- Research shows that 80% of 18-24-year olds are willing to share their email address online with their friends, and as many as 29% are willing to share their mother's maiden name.
- Beneficiary mule accounts held by those aged 25 and under increased by 14% to 52%.
- In 2017 there was a 27% increase in the number of 14-24-year olds being used as money mules.

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Financial Crime and Scamming published an [inquiry into young victims of financial crime](#). Key Findings included:

- There is a need to put in place structured learning into schools and colleges for young people on the means to keep themselves safe online from fraud and the dangers and consequences of being inadvertently drawn into money laundering.
- Naivety may be exacerbated by the technology divide between young people and their parents. Young people may not always be supervised or adequately cautioned by an informed parent when accessing the internet at home.
- There is a need to educate parents in the dangers posed by an active online presence, to their parenting responsibilities and to what constitutes fraud.
- Social media channels have a role to play in dynamic messaging to warn potential victims of the dangers of oversharing and advertisements which promote “easy money” . Social media should also be more proactive in challenging and removing such adverts from their platforms.



Cifas have published [Anti-Fraud Education lesson plans](#) for KS3&4 with the PSHE association:.

The charity, Missing People provide a helpline for young people called [SafeCall](#). It is a scheduled telephone call that provides a non-judgemental, safe space for children and young people to talk about their experiences regarding gangs. Children can be referred to the service by a professional or can opt to self-refer. DSLs may wish to make this information available to their pupils.



If there are concerns about exploitation of any kind, Kent Police can be contacted via 101 (999 if there is an immediate risk of harm) or the following links:

- cse.team.kent.and.medway@kent.pnn.police.uk
- www.kscb.org.uk/guidance/sexual-abuse-and-exploitation

Suicide Prevention Training

3-hour face-to-face suicide prevention training is now available for anyone within Kent and Medway who would like to access it. This training is fully funded by the Kent and Medway STP, Medway Council and Kent County Council, and therefore it is available free of charge. The training is being delivered by Maidstone and Mid-Kent Mind and places can be booked via their [website](#).

We believe that the training will be useful to anyone who may come across someone (a friend, a family member, a colleague, a member of the public, a stranger) who appears to be struggling with life. If you have any questions, please contact mindhelp@mmkmind.org.uk

Later in the year, the Kent and Medway STP, Medway Council and KCC will also be making available a separate training course (relating to suicide and self-harm in children and young people) and an e-learning course. More details will follow when available.

e-Learning for childminders and updated guidance for Early Years

The Education Safeguarding service are pleased to announce that an e-learning course for childminders is now available on [CPD online](#).

This certificated course will cover everything childminders will need to know about safeguarding including:

- Understanding the key tasks of promoting welfare and safeguarding
- recognising vulnerability,
- the responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead role
- procedures specific to Kent, including the new Front Door.

New guidance for [Supervision in Early Years and Lockdown](#) can be found on Kelsi.

Young Carers Awareness Day 31.01.19

Young carers Awareness Day is coming up at the end of January. This year's theme will focus on mental health; being a young carer can impact greatly on one's own mental wellbeing.

The [carers.org](#) website has many resources and advice in relation to the day itself; other relevant information is available directly at: <https://carers.org/young-carers-awareness-day-2019-resources>

Education Safeguarding Service - Contacts 2019

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Ashley Assiter Online Safety Development Officer		07545 743310	ashley.assiter@theeducationpeople.org
Kay Ashman Admin Support			or for general enquiries: esafetyofficer@theeducationpeople.org
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Rachel Unsworth Admin Support			
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SOUTH KENT (Ashford, Shepway, Dover) Kroner House, Eurogate Business Park, Ashford TN24 8XU			
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Tracy McDowell-Austin Area Safeguarding Assistant		07966322751	tracy.mcdowell-Austin@theeducationpeople.org
Lin Storton Admin Support (part-time)			

Integrated Front Door: 03000 411111 (outside office hours **03000 419191**)

Early Help Contacts (district teams) can be found on www.kelsi.org.uk/special-education-needs/integrated-childrens-services/early-help-contacts

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Contacts - 2018

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 Central Referral Unit on: 03000 411111

LADO Team: 03000 410888

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

Email: 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	(To be appointed)	03000 412209
North Kent	Ian Watts	03000 414302

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