



# Safe to Learn



## Northumberland Children 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

**Please share with all staff and Governors**

Issue 71: 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023

### Northumberland Schools Safeguarding Team Updates

#### LADO – Important Information



Louise Prudhoe, the LADO is currently not in work and Carol Glasper is covering the role of LADO for the foreseeable future. As usual all queries should go to the generic email and telephone number. Call: 07500 606174 or Email: [LADO@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:LADO@northumberland.gov.uk)

#### Update from Police – Allegations Against People in Positions of Trust



When an allegation of assault is made against a member of staff within a school, this must be brought to the attention of MASH Police, usually from the LADO contacting the MASH police directly. It is important police have the information as soon as possible, so they can create a Child Concern Notification (CCN). MASH police then notify the police

Child Protection Team who will investigate.

It is not the decision of schools whether allegations should be reported to the police, and it is not a decision of the LADO to determine if an offence has been committed, this is the role of the police. There have been incidents where schools have completed an internal investigation prior to police being informed and this can affect the outcome of the police investigation. Police should be the lead agency and investigate criminal matters first.

Also, reports of allegations should be made to police before the LADO meeting and not during the meeting. This will allow the investigation team to be aware of the allegations and attend the LADO meeting with that information, where they will be able to share what stage, the investigation is at with those involved in the meeting.

#### Operation Encompass – EOTAS



If your school receives an Operation Encompass notification for a child on your roll, but who is working with EOTAS, please inform the EOTAS team as soon as possible. The EOTAS contacts for Operation Encompass are Susan Laws: [susan.laws@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:susan.laws@northumberland.gov.uk) and Angela Mitchison: [angela.mitchison@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:angela.mitchison@northumberland.gov.uk)

The sooner this information is passed on to the EOTAS staff, the sooner the child can be given the appropriate support.

#### Operation Encompass – School Survey

Many thanks to all the schools who have completed the Operation Encompass School Survey, if you have not yet completed the survey, please do so as soon as possible as the survey will be closing at half term. The survey takes a maximum of 5 minutes to complete. The results of the survey will help us to identify how Operation Encompass notifications are used by schools, and what impact this has on children and young people living with domestic abuse. The results of the survey will contribute to a report being prepared for the Local Partnership Domestic Abuse Strategy.

[Please click here to access the survey.](#)

## Operation Encompass Teachers' Helpline

The Operation Encompass Teachers' Helpline is supported by Psychology Associates. The helpline provides advice and guidance to school staff working with and supporting vulnerable children and their families who have been impacted by domestic violence. The advice and helpline is confidential and you will be given expert advice. The helpline is available from 8 am – 1 pm Monday – Friday.

The number is 0204 513 9990

## Northumberland E-S175



Many thanks to all the schools and alternative providers who completed their E-S175 safeguarding audit before the end of the autumn term. You can now review your E-S175 and update any actions you have taken since completion of the audit. If you have not yet completed your E-S175, please contact the Schools Safeguarding Team as soon as possible.

## Support for DSLs

Being a professional in the education sector can be very challenging, and being a DSL can certainly add to that pressure. The Schools Safeguarding Team think that it is very important that DSLs get the support they need, and we can see from the E-S175 responses that not all our DSLs have formal supervision in place. The Educational Support Organisation has published a page on their site dedicated to addressing how to deal with these feelings. They also have a helpline that you can call. For further information, please follow this link:

<https://www.educationsupport.org.uk/resources/for-individuals/articles/teacher-burnout-and-how-to-avoid-it/>

## Meeting Digital and Technology Standards in Schools and Colleges



The Department for Education has created filtering and monitoring standards for schools and colleges in England to help protect children online. The standards cover:

- Areas of responsibility
- Testing device efficiency
- Creating strategies that meet safeguarding needs

The standards were published on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 and were updated on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023, and can be [accessed here.](#)

## Updated Training Dates

**The Schools Safeguarding Team Training dates for academic year 2022 – 2023 have been updated with extra dates added.**



**Please note; Northumberland Children and Adults' Safeguarding Partnership (NCASP) have stated that all DSLs working in Northumberland schools need to do their refresher training, every 2 years with the Northumberland Schools Safeguarding Team, regardless of where schools commission their safeguarding support. DSLs who are new to the authority and have not previously trained with the Schools Safeguarding Team, also need to complete the Northumberland Referral Process Training. Training dates for these training sessions are as shown below:**

**DSL refresher (KCSiE advises every two years and NCASP requires that Northumberland DSLs attend training delivered in Northumberland. All sessions will remain virtual**

17<sup>th</sup> May 2023 - 13:00 – 15:00

29<sup>th</sup> June 2023 – 13:00 – 15:00

11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – 13:00 – 15:00

**New DSL Roles and Responsibilities Training. Face-to-face training delivered over one full day at West Hartford Fire Station**

9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – 09:00 – 16:30

**Additional Date - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – 09:00 – 16:30**

**Making a Referral Training. Face-to face training for DSLs new to Northumberland – delivered at Northumbria House, Cramlington**

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 13:30 – 16:30

**Governors Role and Responsibilities – virtual.** As KCSiE 2022 states that all governors should do safeguarding training we have added more regular sessions. Schools can also request training for the full governing body, which can be delivered virtually or face to face.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May: 17:30 – 18:30

**Safer recruitment training: attendees must attend both sessions. These are face to face sessions delivered at Northumbria House, Cramlington**

Session 1 - Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 13:00 – 16:00

and

Session 2 Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 13:00 – 16:00

The training dates are available in the training folder of the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site.

**Please note the Schools' Safeguarding Team Training Dates for Sept 2023 onwards are now available in the DSL SharePoint.**

## DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint



All DSLs in Northumberland are being invited to the new Northumberland Virtual School SharePoint site where information for DSLs is located (please see further information in Virtual School updates, below). The current **DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint** site is still open and available to all DSLs. This site will stop being updated after the half term holidays, by which time all DSLs should be accessing the new site. If you are having difficulties accessing the site, please contact the Virtual School Admin team, who will be able to support you to gain access, by emailing [educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk)

The new Virtual School site will be regularly updated, and the following documents have been added to the site since the last full Safe To Learn (Issue 70 was sent out in March). These documents have also been added to the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site:

### Early Help and Parenting Folder:

- Family Home Care Tool

### Exploitation Folder:

- Slang dictionary
- Parental Control Phone Apps
- Parents Against Child Exploitation (PACE) Parent Webinar Presentation

### Healthy Relationships Folder:

- Young People's RSE Poll
- PSHE and Safeguarding – a 'compelling case'

### Police Information Folder:

- Prevention Through Education Newsletter, Summer 2023

### Practice Reviews Folder - New Subfolder – NSPCC Summaries

- Learning from case reviews – parents with a mental health problem
- Learning from case reviews - education

#### Training Folder:

- Updated Schools Safeguarding Team Training dates
- 2023 – 2024 Schools Safeguarding Team Training dates
- 2023 – 2024 Multi Agency Early Help and Prevention Training Programme
- 2023 – 2024 NCASP Training Programme

#### Young Carers Folder:

- Being A Young Carer Is Not a Choice It's Just What We Do – The voices and experiences of young carers and young adult carers from across the UK.

## Northumberland Children and Adult's Safeguarding Partnership (NCASP) Updates

### NCASP Training Programme

Northumberland Children and Adult's Safeguarding Partnership Multi Agency Training programme has been published for 2023 – 2024. The programme is available on new Virtual School SharePoint in the DSL section, in the training folder. It is also available in the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site.

Please note that some courses are up to date on the programme until March 2024, while other dates are only available up to the end of the summer term, the programme will be updated in September 2023. All applications for courses are made via [Learning Together](#).

Anyone requiring a Learning Together account can register via [ncc.learningpool.com](http://ncc.learningpool.com)

Support is available from [learningandod@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:learningandod@northumberland.gov.uk)

### Young Carers Identification and Awareness Session

This workshop will focus on how to recognise and support young carers and consider the impact this role may be having on their wellbeing and development. The session will cover the role Carers Northumberland has in supporting young carers and the key part professionals play in the identification and signposting of young carers.

The training will cover topics such as:

- How to identify young carers
- Signs
- Strategies of how to approach the topic with young carers and their families
- Assessment
- How to refer a young carer for further support

The training can be delivered remotely or face to face. A session is held monthly via teams on the [Learning Together portal](#)

A stand-alone session can be offered to colleagues in schools and the Young Carers Link Worker; Karen Lightley can deliver assemblies to schools too. For further information, please contact Karen via email:

[youngcarers@carersnorthumberland.org.uk](mailto:youngcarers@carersnorthumberland.org.uk)

## Virtual School Updates

### Virtual School SharePoint



DSLs will soon be able to access all the information they currently access on the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint, through the new DSL area on the Northumberland Virtual School SharePoint site. This was discussed by Jane Walker last term when she attended the DSL Locality Briefings. Invitations to the new SharePoint site will be sent out via the Virtual School Admin team, and all DSLs that we have contact details for, will be invited to

the new site, including all DSLs that currently use the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint. The DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site will still be available to use, but it will stop being updated at the end of this half term, by which time everyone should have started using the Virtual School SharePoint. If you have any issues accessing the site, please contact the Virtual School Admin team using this email address: [educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk)

## Prevent

### Martyn's Law

Following the Government's consultation on updates to the Protect Duty, which is part of the Prevent Duty, there is a plan to update guidance to schools and colleges in relation to security guidance for publicly accessible locations (PALs). The following summary from the interim guidance identifies some of the key points that will shortly be made available to schools.

**Why do I need to consider counter-terrorism?** The terrorist threat to education settings is currently assessed as low. Martyn's Law legislation will improve the security awareness and preparedness of a range of locations to protect against and mitigate the impact of attacks. Improving CT security awareness and preparedness mitigates against a range of risks – not just from terrorism. As Protect Duty policy develops, and as and when legislation is agreed by Parliament, tailored guidance will support the education sector to meet its obligations under the Protect Duty.

**What resources can I access now?** All schools will have policies, plans and procedures in place to deal effectively with health and safety responsibilities. Processes to identify, assess, and review health and safety risks can be adapted to address security matters. Guidance, training and advice on safety and security can be found here:

- [ProtectUK](#) is a new counter terrorism Policing platform to help organisations counter terrorism, increase awareness and stay alert. The ProtectUK app offers actionable content that can help counter-terrorism. The app also includes videos, such as 'RUN HIDE TELL' showing clear steps to take if faced with a terrorist incident.
- [Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure | CPNI](#) - As the UK Government's national technical authority for physical and personnel protective security, the CPNI website covers a range of advice and guidance that is free to access.
- [School and college security - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) is non-statutory guidance to help schools and colleges develop policies and plans to manage and respond to security related incidents. The local context is crucial when developing your policies. This should reflect your school or college's unique circumstances, including size and location, character and ethos, educational needs, and local priorities.

We are in regular contact with our colleagues in the counter terrorism team and will update you as the guidance develops and is made available for educational settings.

## Other Useful Information

### Online Reporting Hub



When it comes to online reporting, it can be difficult to understand what processes are involved when we need to escalate certain types of content, particularly for children and young people. The SWGfL reporting hub can help with this.

The reporting hub is broken down in several ways. It gives an overview of what harmful online content can look like, when it needs to be reported, and why it is important to report, and where to go to escalate concerns.

The hub can provide schools with an accessible downloadable resource that can be used to promote the importance of online reporting.

The hub can be accessed by following this link: [SWGfL Release Online Reporting Hub | SWGfL](#)

## Report Remove Tool



NSPCC Learning has published a podcast episode about the Childline and Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) online self-reporting tool, Report Remove. The tool enables under-18s to report sexual images or videos of themselves that have been shared online, to see if they can be removed from the internet. The podcast looks at: why the tool is needed; how the tool works; how reports are handled when they are made; and the support provided by Childline.

Listen to the podcast: [Podcast: an introduction to Report Remove, an online self-reporting tool for young people](#)

Watch on YouTube: [An introduction to the Report Remove online safeguarding tool: NSPCC Learning podcast](#)

## NHS Resource – Be Body Positive



Resource to support parents, carers and professionals to help children and young people to:

- Improve eating behaviours and relationship with food
- Build positive body image
- Identify concerns around body image and disordered eating

The site also has educational modules for use with children and young people, which explore the following topics:

### Body image and Normal Eating -

- Intuitive and balanced eating
- Feeling comfortable in your body
- Breaking free from diet culture

### Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID) -

- Managing anxiety around food
- Understanding hunger
- Support a young person with ARFID as well as very picky or fussy eaters

### What is disordered eating? -

- Understanding disordered eating
- Recognising the signs and signals
- Supporting emotional regulation

## Bullies Out – E-Safety Resource



Advice for parents and carers on how to keep their children safe online and to have conversations with their children around online safety, bullying, upward bullying and how to be kind online.

There is also information on the site for school staff on how to deal with harassment and bullying that they may experience in the workplace.

## Northumbria Police Prevention Through Education Team



When children and young people are not aware of the risks of exploitation, they can unwittingly share, or be coerced into sharing personal information and images that make the grooming process that much easier for someone attempting to exploit them. In the wake of Child Exploitation Awareness Day, the Prevention Through Education

Team would like to highlight some resources that they've created and made available online to help educate children, parents and carers:

- **Year 5 and 6** – [Internet Safety lesson](#) talks through what is and isn't safe to share and makes young people think about who they talk to online.
- [Reducing children's exposure to violent and pornographic content](#) contains advice on parental

controls for devices and how to talk to young children about keeping safe online.

- **Year 7 onwards**, a short video called [Megan's Story](#) is available: Megan gives an account of her nude image being leaked and the devastating effect it had on her. This resource can be used as a conversation starter in class, or shared with parents and carers for their awareness, alongside the following guide:
- [A guide for parents and carers – Sharing nudes](#) raises awareness, contains tips on how to keep children and young people safer online, and signposts to further support.

Schools may also wish to consider hosting the Violence Reduction Unit's (VRU) Education Team . The team offers an hour-long, classroom based malicious communications session for Key Stage 3 and 4 students. As well as encouraging children to consider the impact and consequences of sending unkind, inappropriate or offensive messages, the topic of sharing nudes is addressed. If you'd like to find out more, please send an email to [VRU@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:VRU@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk)

## Catch On – Child Exploitation Resource Pack

Northumbria Police Prevention Through Education Team have informed us of the **Catch-On Education Resource about Child Exploitation aimed at pupils in Years 7 and 8**. The resource contains a suite of options for a single lesson or series of lessons exploring the topic of grooming and exploitation. Materials include lesson slides with embedded links and videos: comprehensive lesson plan guidance with photocopyable activity sheets; a handbook for parents and professionals.

The resource has been written by a team of frontline practitioners and curriculum leads from one of the Catch 22 Schools. The aim is to make children aware of child exploitation, empower them to recognise the warning signs, and know where to go to get help if they or their friends are targeted. [Click here to access the resource pack.](#)

## Contact us



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If you cannot contact a member of staff directly then, please use these generic email addresses. Your query will be logged and you will receive a response by the end of the working day or within 24 hours.

- If you have a query for the Schools' Safeguarding team please email - [Schoolssafeguarding@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Schoolssafeguarding@northumberland.gov.uk)
- If you have a query for the Education Welfare team please email - [educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk)
- If you have a query for the looked after children's team please email - [eslac.info@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:eslac.info@northumberland.gov.uk)
- If you have a query for children educated other than at school team (EOTAS) please email - [eotashealth@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:eotashealth@northumberland.gov.uk)

If you have a more urgent query or request please telephone 01670 622787.

