



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 72: 16th June 2023

Northumberland Schools Safeguarding Team Updates

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
11th 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

Additional Date - Wednesday 5th July 2023 – 09:00 – 16:30

Tuesday 19th September 2023 – 9.00 - 16.30

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

Tuesday 26th September 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.

Monday 25th September 2023: 18:00 – 19:00

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

Session 1 – Thursday 28th September 13:00 – 16:00

and
Session 2 Tuesday 3rd October 13:00 – 16:00

The training dates are available in the training folder of the DSL area of the Virtual School SharePoint site.

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

Please note, all bookings for School Safeguarding Team training should now be sent to the Schools Safeguarding Team Mailbox:

Schoolssafeguarding@northumberland.gov.uk

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023



The DfE has uploaded the latest version of Keeping Children Safe in Education ready for implementation in September 2023. You can find it [here](#). A guide to all the changes in the new KCSiE has been produced by Carol Leckie and is attached to the email with this briefing. The guide outlines how the changes are relevant to Northumberland County Council safeguarding procedures. This update is also available on the DSL area of the Virtual School SharePoint, in the KCSiE folder.

Please remember, the 2023 version of KCSiE should only be implemented from 1st September 2023, the 2022 version is to remain in use until this date.

Emergency Planning and Response for Education, Childcare, and Children's Social Care Settings



This guidance was updated in May. The guidance will help education, childcare, and children's social care settings plan for, and respond to emergencies. Every emergency is different and, in all cases, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children remains of paramount importance. You must continue to follow any statutory safeguarding guidance that applies to you and your setting.

For more information and access to the guidance, click [here](#).

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

DSL Holiday Cover



The Schools Safeguarding Team has put a DSL Holiday Cover Template on the [DSL area of the Virtual School SharePoint Site](#), in the **Holiday Cover for DSLs folder**. It would be very helpful if you could allocate cover over the school summer holidays and complete the template, please. This will enable Children's Services to contact the appropriate person from your school in an emergency, or to let you know if there is going to be an Initial Child Protection Conference for a child in your school, should you wish to attend or send important information. Please make a copy of the template, before adding your information and when you have completed the form, please send it via email to Carol Leckie, Justine

Clephane or Victoria Kinneavy (contact details for the Schools Safeguarding Team are at the end of this issue).

Operation Encompass – Updating Contact Information



If a member of your DSL team is due to leave your school for pastures new, please could you let us know so we can update our contact information. This is especially important for Operation Encompass and Operation Endeavour contacts, as having outdated information means that notifications could be sitting in obsolete inboxes, instead of informing the appropriate people, who could then be giving children and young people the support they need.

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 soon. 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](#)

Notifying Parents/Carers

All schools in Northumberland are Operation Encompass and Operation Endeavour schools and you must notify parents of this. The end of this term and beginning of the new academic year are both good times to remind parents, and it's especially important that new parents/carers are notified. The template letters have recently been updated and are available for you to cut and paste from the [DSL area of the Virtual School SharePoint](#) site, in the Operation Encompass and Endeavour folder. You can also add the letters and logos to your school website.



There is an up-to-date list of DASV support services available in the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence folder on the SharePoint site, please share this information with parents and carers via your website, newsletters and through signage in schools. DASV incidents rise during school holidays so it's helpful for families to have this information before you break up for summer. The list of Northumberland support services is available on the NCC DA poster in the folder.

Did You Know?

If you have received Operation Encompass notifications about a family in school, or if you have concerns around domestic abuse taking place in the home of children in your setting, you can make a Clare's Law application (officially known as the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme) without the consent of the family you are worried about. As the professional making the application, you will not be given the results of the findings, but the person you are worried about will have the results shared with them, which may help them to make a decision about their relationship with a possible abuser. This is called Right To Ask.

DSL Area of the Virtual School SharePoint



All DSLs in Northumberland have been invited to the new Northumberland Virtual School SharePoint site where information for DSLs is located. The current **DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint** site is still open and available to all DSLs but this site will stop being updated at the end of term, by which time all DSLs should be accessing this new site.

[This link will take you straight to the site](#), please save the site as a favourite for easy

access in the future.

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

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 71 was sent out in April).

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Folder:

- Grace services flyer

KCSiE 2022 Folder:

- New folder entitled KCSiE 2023 - Only for use from 1st September 2023, containing the new guidance has been added
- Explanation of updates presentation

Holiday Cover for DSLs (new folder):

- Holiday cover template

Locality Briefings Folder

- Presentation from the May 2023 briefing is now available

Miscellaneous DSL Information Folder:

What meeting am I attending – updated document is now available

NCASP Folder:

- Children's Services Procedures Manual update

Operation Encompass and Endeavour Folder:

- 2023 Operation Encompass letter for parents/carers
- 2023 Operation Endeavour letter for parents/cares
- Holiday cover template

Private Fostering Folder:

- Private Fostering Flowchart

Training Folder:

- 2023 – 2024 Dates for Schools Safeguarding Team Training

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

Safer in Education sub-group



The Safer in Education sub-group of NCASP is now operational and is an evolution of the previous Schools' Engagement sub-group. Safer in Education has multi-agency membership and will promote the safeguarding of children in education settings, streamline key strategies and processes that keep children safe to learn and engage education providers in Northumberland as active partners of the NCASP.

At its core is the original purpose of the Schools' Engagement sub-group, with added layers to include children with a social worker (including looked after children) and children missing education (including persistent and severe absentees). The group will therefore include Designated Teachers and school attendance leads. More about membership and the opportunity to contribute to the group will be shared in the autumn term.

The workplan for the sub-group will align with the strategic priorities of NCASP, currently being drafted with involvement from multi-agency partners.

That means that this is the last publication of Safe to Learn as you have known it. From September the regular bulletin will be called **Safer in Education**, and with sub-sections for Safe to Learn, Learn Achieve Celebrate and attendance matters.

Northumberland Family Hubs

Previously known as Children's Centres, Family Hubs work in partnership with families and different services in the community to support parents/carers, children and young people as they grow. NCC's Family Hubs carry out a range of work in the local community, which includes birth registration, midwifery services, primary mental health support, community events and relationship support.

Family hubs are there to ensure that support services are accessible to families across Northumberland and offer a range of support to young people.

The Northumberland Family Hubs website has now gone live and is available by following [this link](#).

Northumberland Children's Services Procedures Manual Update



The Northumberland Children's Services Procedures Manual has been updated. As a DSL it is best practice to have a link to the manual saved as a favourite on your computer or laptop, so you have easy access to it. Please click [here to access the manual](#)

[manual](#)

An explanation of the updates, linked to your role as a DSL is attached to this email and is available in the DSL area of the Virtual School SharePoint site, in the NCASP folder.

Virtual School Updates

Northumberland Attendance Strategy

Thank you to colleagues who took the time to respond to the consultation about Northumberland's new attendance strategy. The consultation is now closed and the strategy will be published in September to start implementation.



The strategy will ensure that we fulfil the DfE guidance [Working together to improve school attendance](#) that will be statutory from September 2023.

Levels of persistent and severe absence in Northumberland remain high, as they do across the country. It is vital that professionals see attendance improvement as everyone's business, and continually ask that ***if children are not in school then where are they and are they safe.***

More information about the attendance strategy will be shared with schools and DSLs in due course.

Other Useful Information

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 the feelings that DSLs experience. 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/>

White Ribbon Accreditation



Northumberland County Council is White Ribbon Accredited and we would like colleagues in Northumberland schools to take the pledge too. We encourage everyone to make the White Ribbon Promise to never use, excuse or remain silent about men's violence against women. By doing so, you're becoming part of a wider movement to end violence and helping to make a difference to the lives of many people.

Wearing a White Ribbon is a powerful visual way to share the message, and this can help start important conversations with others, especially young people in school, and particularly boys. If we can start working with children and young people early, we can help to prevent them from becoming future perpetrators of violence against women and girls.

To make the White Ribbon Promise click [here](#).

If you choose to make the promise, please let Justine Clephane know and she will send your information to the Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator, so you can be added to the list of supporters, to ensure you receive information about future events and activities.

Adrenaline Pens



On 9 May, the NHS issued an urgent drug recall for the Emerade brand of adrenaline pens. **For schools that keep their own supplies of emergency adrenaline pens, please check if these school-held emergency pens are the Emerade brand (either the 300 or the 500 microgram strength) and contact the community pharmacy where these were purchased for further advice.**

The NHS recall information can be accessed [here](#). This information states that all Emerade 300 and 500 microgram pens are being urgently recalled due to some devices failing to deliver the drug or activating prematurely.

Grace Northumberland



Grace Rape Crisis Tyneside and Northumberland supports women and girls who need to talk to someone about rape and/or sexual abuse. They offer a free, confidential counselling service which means that women and girls can speak to an independent counsellor who is qualified and trained to help them work through their emotions. All of the counsellors are women and counselling provides a safe place to talk with someone who understands the experience of rape and/or sexual abuse, and who will not judge.

The Grace flyer is available in the DSL area of the Virtual School SharePoint site, in the DASV folder.

Contact us



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Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gov.uk

Justine Clephane, Schools' Safeguarding Consultant, 07879 874168

Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk

Vicky Kinneavy, Schools' Safeguarding Consultant, 07966 325300

Victoria.Kinneavy@northumberland.gov.uk

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
- If you have a query for the Education Welfare team please email - educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk
- If you have a query for the looked after children's team please email - 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

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

To book onto training provided by the Schools Safeguarding Team, please write to the Schools Safeguarding Team Mailbox with your details and details of training you would like to attend.

Schoolssafeguarding@northumberland.gov.uk