



Safe to Learn

Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board

Northumberland Education and Skills Service

Half termly bulletin for Governors, Headteachers/Principals and Designated Safeguarding Leads in Schools, Academies and Alternative Providers

Issue 16: February 2018

DOMESTIC ABUSE

Introducing a NEW INTEGRATED DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE FOR NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland County Council continues to commit to supporting people who are experiencing or who are at risk from domestic abuse, with the development of a new integrated flexible service.

In line with other local authorities, the council has brought together individual service provision to develop a hub that delivers an integrated service for both female and male victims over the age of 16.

The new service includes a single point of access for all referrals 24 hours a day 7 days a week, safe refuge accommodation, dispersed accommodation, resettlement into the community and outreach support, as well as Independent Domestic Violence Advisors to support people identified as high risk.

The new service, delivered by Places for People Living + will work in partnership with the council, Northumbria Police, NDAS, Cygnus and other voluntary, community and statutory organisations to deliver a whole system response to domestic abuse in Northumberland.

Further information will be shared with all partners nearer the launch date, but any queries can be directed to Lesley Pyle at Lesley.Pyle@northumberland.gov.uk.

Operation Encompass

All schools should have received a short questionnaire in relation to the implementation of Operation Encompass. We hope you had time to complete the survey and we will feedback the results as soon as a report is completed.



SAVE YOUR SECTION 175 AUDIT

From 31st March 2018 the NSCB will no longer be funding the online Section 175 safeguarding standards audit tool.

Instead we will be introducing a similar online tool using google. Further details will follow after half term.

PLEASE SAVE A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT SECTION 175 AUDIT SO THAT YOU DON'T LOSE IT AND SO THAT YOU CAN INPUT THE INFORMATION AND DATA INTO THE NEW GOOGLE FORM.

Any queries, please e-mail Carol Leckie without delay.

DfE GUIDANCE AND CONSULTATIONS

Changes to teaching of sex and relationship education, and PSHE

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-teaching-of-sex-and-relationship-education-and-pshe>

Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-violence-and-sexual-harassment-between-children-in-schools-and-colleges>

Improving social mobility through education - the government's national plan to support children and young people to reach their full potential

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/improving-social-mobility-through-education>

Searching, screening and confiscation: guidance for schools - the DfE has published guidance explaining the powers schools in England have to screen and search pupils, and to confiscate items they find - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/searching-screening-and-confiscation>

Transforming children and young people's mental health provision: a green paper - the government is asking people for their views on a green paper setting out measures to improve mental health support for children and young people. The green paper focuses on earlier intervention and prevention, especially in and linked to schools and colleges.

The proposals include:

- creating a new mental health workforce of community-based mental health support teams;
- every school and college will be encouraged to appoint a designated lead for mental health;
- a new 4-week waiting time for NHS children and young people's mental health services to be piloted in some areas.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/transforming-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-provision-a-green-paper>

STAFF EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Schools need to look after staff, so that they can do their best work, because when staff do their best work children feel safe, supported and can achieve more. Here are some resources to ensure that school leaders support staff well-being and mental health.

The Education Support Partnership is the UK's only charity dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of the entire education workforce. There are many stresses on those who work in education - a challenging student, stress & depression, personal financial worries and many more.

The Education Support Partnership runs a free and confidential 24-hour helpline for education staff. No issue is too big or too small: 08000 562 561

www.educationsupportpartnership.org.uk

contains many resources, including an individual assessment which gives an indication of the kinds of stress and wellbeing issues that may affect a person. The stress test is intended to help people reflect on their own experience of stress and pressure, and to find ways of improving wellbeing at work and home:

<http://bewellteachwell.org.uk/self-evaluation>

Other services include, email support and live chat, information and advice, and a confidential grants service to help with financial worries.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION

As you will be aware the DfE are currently consulting on changes to KCSiE and you can still contribute (until 22/2/2018) at <https://consult.education.gov.uk/safeguarding-in-schools-team/keeping-children-safe-in-education/>

The key changes proposed include:

- what to do if you have a concern about a child - more detailed guidance for staff on the role of early help and the processes for making a referral;
- Children Missing Education - schools will be required to hold more than one emergency contact;
- Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence in Schools - the guidance will be updated to reflect the new 'Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges' published in December 2017;
- children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) - there will be clear guidance in relation to the use of restraint, especially when considering children with SEND;
- Safer Recruitment - there are several areas being strengthened:
 - the new guidance reinforces the mandatory requirements for the single central record;
 - there will be minor changes to clarify the differences between prohibitions, directions, sanctions and restriction;
 - there will be clearer advice on which pre-employment checks are necessary, particularly in relation to DBS checks;
 - there will be clearer advice on references and how to ensure these support the safe appointment of suitable staff;
- host families – additional guidance will be provided to clarify how schools can minimise the risk of harm to children taking part in school exchange visits;
- allegations of abuse made against teachers and other staff - there will be more information provided to support schools including clarification on their duties as an employer.

The consultation also seeks views on possible extensions to the guidance provided on online safety and seeks professionals' views on the size and scope of KCSiE and the appropriateness of overseas checks

Please ensure you continue to use the September 2016 version until the changes are confirmed

ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Advice and guidance is available from the Education and Skills Service and the Northumberland Local Children's Safeguarding Board (NSCB):

**Carol Leckie, Schools' Safeguarding and Wellbeing Team Manager,
01670 622720 Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gov.uk**

All schools/academies/alternative providers need to know about safeguarding is ON ONE PAGE of the NCC website entitled [Information for Schools](#) and the [Safeguarding and Schools section](#) of the *Inclusion and the Virtual School* webpage.

The minimum safeguarding requirements you should have in place by law can be found in the DfE's statutory guidance [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) September 2016.

Please remember that it is your responsibility to ensure that safeguarding practice in your own organisation meets required standards and is compliant.

IN BRIEF

- **County lines criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults**

Please see the below link to a video on You Tube from the Youth Justice Convention in December 2017 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-0R0ScqZb0>

- **YOTI App**

Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation have come together to provide a service where children can request the removal of sexual images of themselves which have been shared online. As part of that process the child would be asked to provide a link to where the image is stored online, rather than send the image itself.

The child is also required to verify their identity and age and this is done through the YOTI app. YOTI will not store images of the child's ID following the verification process.

Below are details of online resources regarding this service:

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/sexting> - there is a section which covers what you can do if you've lost control of a sexual image and refers to the YOTI app.
- <https://contentreporting.childline.org.uk> – this is the portal where you can report images and videos for take down and again refers to using the app to verify age.

MindEd

MindEd is a free resource is aimed at both families and professionals regarding children and young people's mental health. MindEd is an e-learning tool led by Health Education England and supported by the Department of Health and Education. The resource is quality assured by clinical experts and is suited for use by schools, children's care homes, health professionals, social care, families, advocates and many more. It offers specific modules around autism, learning disabilities and behaviour that challenges.

For further information please access: <https://www.minded.org.uk/>

CLICK ON THE IMAGE AND FIND WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ON-LINE

Safeguarding and schools

The Schools' Safeguarding and Wellbeing team provides services to create environments where vulnerable pupils are safe to learn and monitors safeguarding standards in schools.

Information for Schools regarding all aspects of safeguarding children in Northumberland can be found on **ONE PAGE** which is updated regularly by the Education and Skills Service in partnership with our Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

For a summary of requirements and responsibilities please view and download our leaflets:

- 10 things you should know about safeguarding in schools
- 10 things you should know about Prevent
- 10 things you should know about child sexual exploitation
- 10 things you should know about Operation Encompass
- 10 things you should know about safer recruitment

A bulletin is distributed to schools, academies and education providers across Northumberland every half term, the latest issue can be downloaded to view and print here:

- Safe to Learn Issue 15, December 2017



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS

TES have published an article with advice for teachers on what to do if they are contacted by a pupil outside of school hours and there is a safeguarding concern.

If there is an immediate concern for the safety of a child, teachers should call the police immediately and report it to the local authority child protection team: **01670 536400**.

The article also advises that as with a disclosure that happens in person, teachers should not promise confidentiality and should report the disclosure to the schools designated safeguarding lead as soon as possible.

<https://www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-views/what-do-when-you-hear-out-hours-cry-help>

SERIOUS CASE REVIEWS

The NSCB has recently published a serious case review (Olivia) and a Multi-Agency Deep Dive Reviews (P family). These documents should be shared with all staff and the associated learning should be included in staff briefings. You can find the reviews at:

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Children/Safeguarding/Safeguarding-children-information-for-professional.aspx>

Briefing events for the Serious Case Reviews are being held and you are encouraged to attend.

A half-day workshop will consider recent local Serious Case Reviews and highlight the learning for all professionals and organisations working with children and families in Northumberland. Attendance is free but failure to attend without prior cancellation will incur a £50 charge.

Registration and refreshments will be available 15 minutes before the start of each event.

Booking Arrangements:

- if you have a Learning Together account, please request a place on that system;
- all other applicants should use the form on this [link](#).

Queries about applications/cancellation contact lducommunity@nhct.nhs.uk (01670 629033).

Please note, application does not guarantee a place. In order to ensure multi-agency representation at each event, places will be confirmed 2 weeks before the workshop.

EDUCATION REFERENCE GROUP

The next meeting of this group is from **9-11am on 28th February 2018 in CR1** at County Hall.

Please put the date in your diary.

Adele Wright (Principal Social Worker), Dorothy Chambers (Senior Manager MASH), Adam Hall (DO) and a representative from NTW (CYPS) will be attending therefore all DSLs are invited, rather than just a representative from each partnership.

Please email Karen Davison (karen.davison01@northumberland.gov.uk) by **Monday 19th February** if you would like to attend.

UPDATES FROM NHS ENGLAND CSE SUB-GROUP

1 **Role of Voluntary Sector in tackling Child Sexual Exploitation:** see reports and a range of other resources at the Alexi Project - website <https://www.alexiproject.org.uk/publications>

2 **Tackling CSE from the child's point of view** - there is an event in Manchester on 15th June 2018. For further information please access the follow this link:

<http://www.daretoask.co.uk/>

3 Centre for Longitudinal Studies has published findings from a study of data collected from more than 11,000 14 year-olds across the UK looking at their **experiences of a range of different risky activities** including drinking, smoking and drug-taking. For further information please follow this link:

[Risky Behaviours](#)

4 The University of Bedfordshire has published research looking at ways in which some **police forces in England have structured their child sexual exploitation (CSE)** responses and to assess the features of CSE policing responses in relation to the outcomes for victims. For further information please follow this link:

[Policing and CSE](#)

5 The University of Huddersfield has published a report for the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) quantifying the extent of **online facilitated child sexual abuse (CSA)**, and providing estimates of the scale of varying types of online-facilitated child sexual abuse. The rapid evidence assessment includes figures for the number of offences committed; the number of perpetrators; the number of victims; and the number of images viewed, downloaded and exchanged. For further information please follow this link:

[Child Sexual Abuse](#)

6 NatCen Social Research has published a report for the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) looking at the **behaviour and characteristics of perpetrators of online-facilitated child sexual abuse (CSA)** and child sexual exploitation (CSE). The rapid evidence assessment covers: how perpetrators use specific technologies to offend and how the availability of these technologies influences perpetrators' behaviour, how perpetrators identify and target potential victims; emerging types of offences, as well as children who perpetrate online-facilitated sexual abuse against peers, the relationships between different types of offending, and pathways into offending. For further information please access the following link:

[Behaviour and characteristics of perpetrators of online-facilitated child sexual abuse](#)

7 Think-tank Demos has published a briefing looking at **child sexual abuse images (CSAI)** and their distribution and consumption online. Recommendations to government and social media organisations include: improving measurements of online CSAI; a greater focus on prevention; and including digital life skills as part of the PSHE curriculum. For further information please follow this link:

[Online child sexual abuse images](#)

8 Lancaster University has published a report for the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) looking at the characteristics and vulnerabilities of victims of online- facilitated child sexual abuse (CSA) and child sexual exploitation (CSE). The rapid evidence assessment includes: **distinguishing characteristics or factors that make children either more vulnerable, or more resilient, to online sexual victimisation**, vulnerability profiles or typologies, based on children's characteristics and behaviours; self-generated sexual material, including the relationship between 'sexting' and/or production of self-generated sexual material and sexual extortion or online sexual solicitation; the characteristics and vulnerabilities of victims of transnational online child sexual abuse. For further information please follow this link:

[Characteristics and vulnerabilities of victims of online child sexual abuse](#)