



# 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 2: October 2015

### Communication

Northumberland County Council's new website is now [live](#).

**All schools/academies/alternative providers need to know about safeguarding is ON ONE PAGE entitled [Information for Schools](#). Please add this link to your 'favourites'.**

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

- Carol Leckie, Health and Wellbeing Team Manager, 01670 622720  
[Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gcsx.gov.uk)
- Saira Park, Safeguarding and LAC Quality Assurance Officer and NSCB Development Officer, 01670 623980  
[Saira.Park@northumberland.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:Saira.Park@northumberland.gcsx.gov.uk)

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](#) March 2015

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

### Prevent

Schools now have a duty to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism (Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015).

Follow the links to find the most recent versions of:

- [Statutory guidance from HM Government](#)
- [Non-statutory advice for schools from the DfE](#)
- [Prevent guidance from the Education and Skills Service](#)

The NSCB and Education and Skills service expect all staff in all Northumberland schools, academies and alternative providers to complete **Prevent Awareness e-training** on the learning platform [Learning Together](#).

If you need to arrange access to Learning Together then please contact Karen Bowes, Learning and Organisational Development Officer: 01670 622385.

In Issue 1 of the Safe to Learn bulletin you were asked to complete a Prevent Self-assessment tool and return it to Gill Finch by 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015. Please can you forward your self-assessment to Gill if you have not already done so.

A reminder that there is a [Prevent model policy](#) for you to adopt and adapt.

**If you adopt the policy then please remember:**

- to insert your name and
- to review the policy annually





## From the Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board

Follow the links to find the latest updates from the NSCB:

- [NSCB Annual Report 2014-15](#)
- [Information Leaflet: about the NSCB](#)
- [Training Programme 2015-16](#)

You will see from the Information Leaflet that one of our local priorities for 2015-16 is *improving partnership working with education services on the safeguarding agenda*. In September 2015 a new Education Reference Group for the NSCB was convened. A representative from each education partnership, each phase and each type of education settings met alongside agency partners including the Police, Health and Local Authority. The Group is Chaired by Jane Walker, Senior Manager in the Education Service and Headteacher of the Virtual School for Looked After Children. Terms of Reference were agreed and a workplan is being drafted to fulfil its purpose which is:

- to develop a framework to support a new relationship between education settings and the LSCB;
- for education settings to use that framework to support each other as peers;
- to develop and implement a safeguarding assurance and improvement framework for education settings in order to:
  - improve the welfare and safety of children and young people (through the delivery of training audit processes and education improvement offer)
  - provide assurance for establishments and the LSCB of the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements and practice (through the s175, s157 audit process, external inspections and reviews)
- provide peer support to Headteachers and Further Education representatives on the LSCB to ensure that:
  - the LSCB is aware of key safeguarding issues and challenges faced by educational establishments
  - emerging safeguarding issues are communicated effectively to all educational establishments
  - the representatives challenge the LSCB and vice versa.

You will all be kept up to date and invited to participate through this bulletin and your partnership or setting representative.

Many thanks to those who attended!

The NSCB has a new dedicated Business Manager, **Robin Harper-Coulson**. Robin has a range of experience with a number of LSCBs working across all organisations including schools. We are delighted to welcome him aboard. He is also the Deputy Chair of the Education Reference Group and will be visiting school partnerships during the year to explain his role and that of the NSCB.

# Safeguarding Information Update

## New publications from Ofsted

- Guidance to inspectors when they have [CONCERNS ABOUT CHILDREN](#)
- Ofsted's [POLICY](#) on identifying and responding to concerns regarding the safeguarding and protection of children and young people, with a specific section on protection of vulnerable adults

## Behaviour and discipline in schools

- Guidance for headteachers and governing bodies setting out why all schools in England must have a behaviour policy (24.09.15)
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/behaviour-and-discipline-in-schools-guidance-for-governing-bodies>

## Behaviour and discipline in schools

- Departmental advice for school leaders and school staff on developing a school behaviour policy 24.09.15
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/behaviour-and-discipline-in-schools>

## Pupil premium: summer schools programme 2015

- Information for schools taking part in the 2015 to 2016 summer schools programme 14.09.15
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-summer-schools-programme-2014>

## Induction for newly qualified teachers

- Statutory guidance on NQT inductions for headteachers, school staff and governing bodies 01.09.15
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/induction-for-newly-qualified-teachers-nqts>

## Parental responsibility measures attendance census 2015

- A COLLECT user guide to help LAs complete the 2015 census 01.09.15
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/parental-responsibility-measures-attendance-census-2015-collect>

## Preventing extremism in schools and children's services

- What the government is doing to prevent extremism in the education and children's services sectors 01.09.15
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-extremism-in-schools-and-childrens-services>

## Safeguarding Standards :

### Section 175/11

The Safeguarding Standards audit tool - Section 175/11 - is being amended as a result of your feedback and in response to national developments. The revised template will be made available to you electronically through the Virtual College hopefully before the end of term for completion before Easter 2016. Further guidance, training and information will follow soon.

In the meantime your current version should be up to date following your annual review and you can continue to work on the actions identified. For support and advice please contact Carol Leckie 01670 622720, [Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gov.uk)

## Ofsted Common Inspection Framework and Safeguarding

The new Ofsted Common Inspection Framework has raised the profile of safeguarding. HMI David Brown highlighted the following to Headteachers at a Northumberland conference on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015:

- Inspectors will make two judgements on short inspections: is the school continuing to be a good school? **Is safeguarding effective?** If more evidence is needed to reach a decision, or there is evidence of improvement/decline, it will be converted to a section 5 inspection.
- Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people is defined in [Working Together to Safeguarding Children](#)
- [Inspecting safeguarding](#) will include action taken or needed to protect children and learners from bullying, on-line bullying, prejudice-based bullying, the impact of new technologies and online safety.
- Inspectors will therefore look for signs of **successful safeguarding arrangements** and how effectively leaders **create a safeguarding culture**.
- In order to make a judgement about the extent to which the provision is successfully promoting and supporting children's and learners' safety inspectors will consider the **children's and learners' own understanding** of how to keep themselves safe from relevant risks such as exploitation and extremism.

## What to do if you are worried about a child

If you think a child or young person is being abused or mistreated or you have concerns about the safety or welfare of a child, you must speak to someone immediately.

You can call:

- the Safeguarding Team - **01670 623980 (office hours)**
- or **01670 822386 (out of hours)**
- your local [Children's Social Care Team](#) – find contact details by clicking on this link
- in an emergency phone the police 999
- for advice and guidance or to discuss a concern about a pupil please call **Carol Leckie 01670 622720**

**Whatever you do, contact one of these numbers to share your concerns**