

## Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership with Northumberland Virtual School

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

Issue 62: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

## Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership

### Northumberland Safeguarding Adults and Children Self-Harm E-Learning Module

Anne Lambert, Learning and Development Co-ordinator, has developed a 30 minute e-learning module which considers how and why young people self-harm and provides strategies for supporting them. The course is available to anyone working with children and young people in Northumberland. The course will enable you to:



- Identify self-harming behaviours
- Explain some of the reasons young people might self-harm
- Consider how best to support young people who self-harm
- Signpost to Northumberland's procedures for responding to self-harm

The course is available free through Learning Together:

<https://ncc.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=3451>

### Knife Crime Awareness

A 2-hour webinar looking at legislation, signs and indicators and vulnerability related to knife crime. The course will also signpost to local and national initiatives and sources of support. This training is delivered by Northumbria's Violence Reduction Unit.

- 29 March 13.00-15.00
- 13 June 10.00-12.00

The webinar can be accessed by following this link: <https://ncc.learningpool.com/login/index.php>

### NSSP Carousel Learning Event 2022

This 3-hour virtual event will focus on two of the NSSP strategic priorities for 2021 – 22: The vulnerability of babies and suicide. The workshops will consider recent research related to these topics and share key learning from local safeguarding practice reviews.

- 5 April 9.30 - 12.30

The event can be accessed by following this link: <https://ncc.learningpool.com/login/index.php>



**Neglect Summit, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022** – Agencies across Northumberland are coming together to share knowledge, experience and thoughts on how together we can address neglect more holistically in the future. Practitioners working with children, young people and families are being invited to a 'Neglect Summit' to consider how we can work with communities and the Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership to identify and respond to neglect at the earliest opportunity. For more information about the Neglect Summit, and to book a place, please see the flyer on the **DSL in Schools and APs**

**SharePoint**, in the Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership folder.

## Northumberland Schools Engagement Group



The Schools Engagement Group is committed to supporting schools to take appropriate action to challenge sexual abuse, violence and harassment. To enable us to do this in the most effective way, we would like to collect examples of how schools have managed cases involving bullying where the bullying has taken place through social media. If you have had to manage such bullying cases in your setting, please could you get in touch with Justine

Clephane: - [Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk) or telephone 07879 874168 to discuss this further. We would like to celebrate good practice around tackling online bullying and to share this with colleagues across Northumberland, to support them to manage future incidents.

### Consultation of Revised Behaviour in Schools Guidance and Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Guidance



The DfE are seeing views in response to the 'Timpson Review of School Exclusion' the government are committed to working with sector experts to publish clearer, more consistent guidance to support schools to create positive behaviour cultures and ensure suspensions and permanent exclusions are conducted in a lawful, reasonable and procedurally fair way. The consultation closes on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Please follow this link to complete the online survey: <https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-absence-and-exclusions-team/revise-school-behaviour-and-exclusion-guidance/>

### School attendance: Improving Consistency of Support

The consultation for this guidance has closed but it would be helpful for you to familiarise yourself with this document in preparation for the results of the consultation. Access the document by following this link: [https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-attendance-policy-and-strategy-team/school-attendance-improving-consistency-of-support/supporting\\_documents/Attendance%20consultation%20document.pdf](https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-attendance-policy-and-strategy-team/school-attendance-improving-consistency-of-support/supporting_documents/Attendance%20consultation%20document.pdf) You will be able to access the outcome of the consultation (when it is published) by following this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-attendance-improving-consistency-of-support>

### First Aid in Schools, Early Years and Further Education

The DfE Guidance for First aid in schools, early years and further education was updated in February 2022. The guidance is non-statutory but employers in these settings should have regard to it when carrying out duties relating to first aid issues on their premises and off-site.

Under the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981, employers are responsible for providing adequate and appropriate equipment, facilities and personnel to ensure their employees receive immediate attention if they are injured or taken ill at work.

The DfE guidance can be accessed by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/first-aid-in-schools/first-aid-in-schools-early-years-and-further-education>



### Northumberland Disabled Children's Team – Eligibility Criteria

Northumberland's Disabled Children's Team have recently reviewed and updated their eligibility criteria. An explanation of the updated criteria is on the **DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint Site**, in the Disabled Children's folder. If you are not able to access the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint Site, please email Justine Clephane:

[justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk) and you'll be sent an invitation to the site.



### Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service



In June 2021 [Ofsted concluded](#) that the prevalence of child-on-child sexual harassment and abuse was so widespread that, for some young people, incidents are 'so commonplace that they see no point in reporting them' and 'consider them normal'. SWGfL and The [Marie Collins](#)

[Foundation](#) has created a support service for professionals working with children and young people in tackling harmful sexual behaviours, funded by the Home Office and in collaboration with the Department for

Education. For more information about the service and how it can support you, please follow this link:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/harmful-sexual-behaviour-support-service/>

## Talking to Children and Young People About the Situation in Ukraine

Children and young people have access to a range of news and social media sites which may be offering a varying reports on the Russian invasion of Ukraine and this will be extremely upsetting to many of them. The Children's Commissioner, Rachel de Souza, has stated in **Schools Week** that we should not hide from them what is happening in Ukraine. She has offered advice around explaining the situation to children and giving them an outlet for their anxieties and concerns. Please follow this link:



<https://schoolsweek.co.uk/we-should-not-hide-from-children-what-is-happening-in-ukraine/>



The DfE has also offered help to teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation. Please follow this link:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/>

## PSHE Association – Lessons plans for Parental Separation and Children's Rights



The PSHE Association have awarded their Quality Mark to a resource for pupils in Key Stage 2 called **Rosie's Story: What happens if families Change?** The resource was created by the University of Exeter and is free to access. The resources show pupils that families come in all shapes and sizes and sometimes change if parents separate. The lessons normalise the range of emotions children

go through when parents separate and teach children about the sources of help available to them. The resource supports schools to deliver the statutory Relationships Education requirements.

For more information and to download the resource, please follow this link:

[https://socialsciences.exeter.ac.uk/law/research/groups/frs/projects/rosies\\_story/](https://socialsciences.exeter.ac.uk/law/research/groups/frs/projects/rosies_story/)

## Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Those Working with Children and Young People in Education Settings

The Safer Recruitment Consortium updated their guidance document in February. Many schools use this document as a basis for their staff handbook so please have a look at the updated guidance to check your staff handbooks are up to date. The new guidance document is available on the **DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint Site**, in the policies folder.



## Self-Harm Awareness and Response Training



Tyneside and  
Northumberland

For further information about self-harm, a free training resource is available to any member of school staff working to support children and young people with emotional distress or self-harm. The training is delivered by Connecting with People, Northeast and North Cumbria Suicide Prevention Network and Mind Tyneside and Northumberland. The training will take place by webinar and each session is 3.5 hours. Morning or afternoon sessions available. Choose a date & time & click link below to book a place:

28th March 9.00-12.30 <https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5725>

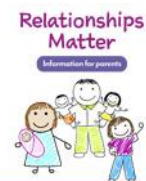
28th March 13.00-16.30 <https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5726>

29th March	9.00-12.30	<a href="https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5727">https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5727</a>
29th March	13.00-16.30	<a href="https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5728">https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5728</a>
30th March	9.00-12.30	<a href="https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5729">https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5729</a>
30th March	13.00-16.30	<a href="https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5730">https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5730</a>
31st March	9.00-12.30	<a href="https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5731">https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5731</a>
31st March	13.00-16.30	<a href="https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5732">https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5732</a>
1st April	9.00-12.30	<a href="https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5733">https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5733</a>
1st April	13.00-16.30	<a href="https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5734">https://portal.connectingwithpeople.org/cwp/registration/5734</a>

## Me, You and Baby Too Pilot for Expecting and New Parents

Information from Helen Lancaster; Senior Project and Development Manager, Early Intervention and Prevention:

The refreshed Prevention and Intervention Pathway includes three interventions to encourage healthy parental relationships to reduce the impact of conflict on children. In advance of the roll out, the team will be running three virtual, county-wide pilots in March for the Me, You and Baby Too group. This is a **universal programme for expecting and new parents** and is ideal as a follow on to one of our other prevention courses like Brilliant Babies or Early Explorers.



The course aims to:

- **Raise** – raise awareness of the impact of our relationships on our babies
- **Prepare** – prepare for the changes to our relationships
- **Support** – support us to manage conflict constructively

This intervention does not work with those in abusive relationships. The programme is for expecting or new parents where there is not an imbalance of power, neither parent is fearful of the other and there are no specialist domestic abuse services working with the family. You need to be satisfied that domestic abuse is not present before referring.

If you have a family you wish to refer, please discuss this with them before making the referral.

Course 1 dates - 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March ([tracy.aitchison@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.aitchison@northumberland.gov.uk))

Course 2 dates - 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March ([natalie.gibbs@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:natalie.gibbs@actionforchildren.org.uk))

Course 3 dates - 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March ([melissa.morton@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:melissa.morton@barnardos.org.uk))

If you have a family in mind to nominate for one of these courses, please use the email addresses above to make a nomination or to gather more information about the courses.

## Charlie Waller Trust Mental Health Support Webinars



Charlie Waller Trust is one of the UK's most respected mental health charities supporting young people to understand their own mental health, to equip them to support themselves and those around them and to empower them to talk more openly about the subject of mental health. The charity was founded in 1997 by the family of Charlie Waller who took his own life whilst suffering from depression. The charity is offering free webinars for parents, carers and teachers on the following topics:

- The teen brain and eating disorders – 22<sup>nd</sup> March
- Supporting children and young people: Low mood and depression – 16<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March
- Managing the highs and lows: What our experiences taught us – 6<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April
- Teen brain matters – 15<sup>th</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> May
- Why sleeping well matters and what you can do to improve it – 4<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May
- Loneliness: How to support young people – 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May

You can book onto to these webinars by following this link:

<https://charliewaller.org/what-we-offer/schools/free-webinars>

## Prevention Through Education Team: Northumbria Police

Message from Miriam Harper, Safeguarding Schools Co-ordinator for Northumbria Police: The 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022 is Child Exploitation Awareness Day and it's important that everyone makes themselves aware of the signs that a child may be being groomed and/or exploited and knows how to seek help if they suspect that a child is at risk. The following resources are available on our webpage: [A basic awareness of County Lines](#) which can be used by students themselves or as the basis of a lesson, and a [leaflet for parents and carers](#) which give information about spotting the signs of County Lines exploitation, and where to get help.



In support of Child Exploitation Awareness Day, the NWG have released the following link which provides information about spotting the signs of grooming and child exploitation, and posters which you may wish to print and display within your setting: [National Child Exploitation Awareness Day 2022](#)

## Appropriate Language in Relation to Child Exploitation



A new guidance document to support colleagues to use the appropriate language in relation to child exploitation has been added to the **DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint** site, in the exploitation folder. The document seeks to provide guidance to professionals on the appropriate use of language when discussing children and their experience of exploitation in a range of contexts. These include when professionals are speaking directly to children, within recording and case management systems and when delivering relevant training or other learning interventions.

## Karma Nirvana: Supporting victims and survivors of Honour Based Abuse – Workshops for Professionals

Karma Nirvana are providing training for frontline professionals to increase knowledge and confidence in supporting victims and survivors of Honor Based Abuse (HBA). The workshops are designed to:

- Build confidence in identifying and challenging HBA and Forced Marriage
- Build resilience when challenging issues of 'cultural sensitivity'
- Recognise HBA and Forced Marriage as a safeguarding matter
- Encourage critical thinking to challenge justifications of abuse on the basis of tradition, culture or religion
- Develop victim pathways for safe and effective responses



Workshops are available on [8<sup>th</sup> June 10.00 - 12.00](#)

[19<sup>th</sup> September 14.00 - 16.00](#)

[25<sup>th</sup> November 11.00 - 13.00](#)

Please follow the links above to book onto your preferred workshop date.

## DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint



All DSLs in Northumberland should have been invited to access the **DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint** site. If you have not been invited to the site, or you are having difficulties accessing the site, please contact Justine Clephane [justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk) who will be able to support you to gain access.

The site is regularly updated and the following documents have recently been added to the site to support you in your role as a DSL:

- Northumberland Prevent Pathway
- Harmful sexualised behaviour traffic light tools
- C.A.R.E 7 minute briefing
- Northumberland drug policy template (policies folder)
- NWG – Spot the signs of exploitation poster
- Northumberland Virtual School LAC briefing
- Online safety – Age limits on apps and games
- Body map template for recording injuries to a child (policies folder)
- Practice reviews – Aaron and Bobby, Fiona
- Private fostering guide
- Signs Of Safety newsletter

## Contact Information

Please could you make sure that the Schools' Safeguarding Team has up to date contact information for the DSLs (Designated Safeguarding Leads) in your setting. This is particularly important for our colleagues in Operation Encompass as 'undeliverable emails' mean that children and young people are not getting the support they need following domestic abuse incidents in their homes.



If a DSL in your setting has left, is on leave or has changed their name/email address, please let us know as soon as possible. That way, we can ensure the correct information is getting to the correct people without any delays.

## Schools Safeguarding Team – Training Events

**New DSL, Roles and Responsibilities Training (Day 1)** – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 1.00 - 3.30 pm

**New DSL, Roles and Responsibilities Training (Day 2)** - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 1.00 - 3.30 pm

**Governors Training** – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 5.30 - 7.00 pm

**Governors Training** – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 5.30 - 7.00 pm

**DSL Refresher Training** – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 1.00 - 3.00 pm

**DSL Refresher Training** – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 1.00 - 3.00 pm

**DSL Refresher Training** – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 1.00 - 3.00 pm

**NSSP Locality Safeguarding Briefings** – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March, Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March, all running from 3.45 - 5.00 pm

If you would like to book on any of the above training events, please contact the Schools Safeguarding Team Admin **Linda Stephenson via email** [Linda.stephenson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Linda.stephenson@northumberland.gov.uk) If you would like further information on the training programme provided by the Schools Safeguarding Team, please contact a member of the team, contact details are listed below.



## Contact us

Please contact us with any queries you might have by phone or by email.

**Carol Leckie, Schools Safeguarding Team Manager, 01670 622720**

[Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Carol.Leckie@northumberland.gov.uk)

**Justine Clephane, Schools Safeguarding Consultant, 07879 874168**

[Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk)

**Victoria Kinneavy, Schools Safeguarding Consultant, 07966 325300**

[Victoria.kinneavy@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Victoria.kinneavy@northumberland.gov.uk)

If you cannot make contact with a member of staff directly then please use these generic details. 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 the EOTAS Team please email - [eotashealth@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:eotashealth@northumberland.gov.uk)
- If you have a more urgent query or request, please telephone 01670 622787.