



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 14: October 2017

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

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.

Domestic Abuse Awareness Week 2017

Domestic Abuse Awareness week is Monday 20th to Friday 26th November 2017.

We will keep schools up to date on local resources and activities as details are shared.

Using external visitors to support on-line safety education

External visitors can provide a useful and engaging approach to enable educational settings to deliver online safety messages to children, young people and adults. However the use of external visitors to support online safety education must be carefully considered to ensure they are used effectively.

This guidance document has been created to make informed decisions regarding the effective use of external visitors to support online safety education. Feedback is invited to the consultation by UKCCIS: [Guidance for education settings](#), This guidance includes:

- Why use external visitors
- When not to use external visitors
- Selecting appropriate external visitors
- Expectations for external visitors
- Safeguarding considerations

News in brief

The latest [DBS newsletter](#) for October 2017 is available and you can download it here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/650127/DBS_News_October_17.pdf

Northumberland's [Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub \(MASH\)](#) is now being implemented. The MASH is based at Foundry House in Bedlington, next to the SPA (single point of access) and will deal with safeguarding referrals for children and adults. Schools will be involved in the MASH's development as the implementation unfolds. In the meantime any queries can be addressed to Carol Leckie or to the MASH.

North Tyneside local authority has developed an excellent [Emotionally Healthy Schools Resource Pack](#). We strongly recommend that you visit the website (at the link provided here) to access and use the resource in your school.

[Handy size Internet Safety Parents' Leaflet \(SWGfL\)](#): this pocket size leaflet gives parents and carers ideas to consider and useful links on the following topics:

- Gaming
- Bullying
- Live Streaming
- Apps
- Instant Messaging

You can download the leaflet here or purchase printed copies at 4p each:

<http://swgfl.org.uk/products-services/online-safety/resources/online-safety-guidance-for-parents/>

[Choke Out: warning from A&E Departments](#): It has come to our attention that children are playing a game called 'choke out'. The object of the game is to put a person in a head lock and strangle/choke them until they ask you to stop or pass out, the one who lasts the longest wins. Consequently:

- children have blacked out and have had a seizure as a result of lack of oxygen
- they have had marks around the neck area where they have been strangled/choked
- this could've potentially resulted in brain damage or loss of life.

Please be vigilant and raise awareness with all school staff, including those who supervise children at break and lunch times.

Training Opportunity: Child Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Abuse

Please see the e-courier week beginning 16th October for information relating to a training opportunity for [secondary PSHE Leads and KeyStage 4 Teachers on Thursday, 30th November 2017](#).

The aim of the briefing event is for schools to find about the work being done on [Child Sexual Exploitation](#) and [Domestic Abuse](#) in Northumberland and for the schools who have delivered the lessons to share feedback and good practice.

You will also be able to book dates and arrange for the partnership team to come out to your school/organisation and deliver further teacher training on the Strengthening Relationships lessons.

Serious Case Reviews

It is important that schools use the learning from serious case reviews as part of their safeguarding updates, and that the learning is revisited regularly to ensure it is embedded in practice.

The most recent reviews have been summarised as team briefs and are available on the NCC website here:

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

Key learning from 'Molly' published on 10th September 2017

All agencies should review their participation and engagement in strategy meetings to ensure:

- decisions about single/joint agency investigations are made following consultation with Social Care;
- there are effective systems to ensure that there is full and comprehensive sharing of information.

Schools are key partners in this process and should ensure their attendance at meetings (as stated in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016) and Face to Face multi agency strategy meetings should always be held in cases of suspected child sexual abuse and recorded as such

Key learning from Kirsty published 27/9/17

- Focus was on mother therefore father was overlooked in assessments so always ensure the involvement of all partners is reflected in any assessment;
- 'Think child' when dealing with adult issues;
- do not allow gender bias in domestic abuse - both males and females can be perpetrators;
- ensure chronologies are maintained and all notes are up to date and are a true representation of meetings;
- do not assume someone else has made a referral when there are concerns or that a parent will self refer - if you are worried, follow your procedures, discuss with your DSL and make a referral.

Invitation to all DSLs: NSCB Education Reference sub-group

It was decided at the last **NSCB Education Reference sub-group** in October that we would invite all DSLs to our next meeting. Consider yourself invited!

The meeting will take place on 28th February from 9.00-11.00am in room CR1 at County Hall.

The agenda includes:

1. Dorothy Chambers, senior manager for developing the MASH
2. Sarah Knowles, representing NTW and the CYPS service
3. Adam Hall, local authority Designated Officer
4. Adele Wright, Principal Social Worker

If you can attend then please can you let Karen Davison know on 01670 623960, or karen.davison01@northumberland.gov.uk.

Numbers are potentially going to be very high so please let us know as soon as you can.

Learn CPR and save a life

British Heart Foundation 'Call Push Rescue' CPR resources includes lesson plans and materials for schools to accompany a DVD and online video resources and was launched to coincide with **European Restart a Heart Day**. Together with the Call Push Rescue training equipment, these resources provide everything needed to learn the important life-saving skill of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

The lesson pack is designed for delivery from Key Stage 3 upwards and can be used with the 'Call Push Rescue' training equipment, which is also free to eligible secondary schools. Alongside guidance on promoting best practice PSHE education delivery, lesson plans and resources are provided to accommodate either one or two sessions designed to ensure young people are trained in this life-saving skill.

PSHE education is the ideal context for learning first aid and CPR as it provides opportunities to develop practical knowledge alongside the skills and attributes necessary to put such knowledge into practice in a real life emergency – for example through development of self-confidence and empathy, and learning to identify and manage risk.

If your school does not have a CPR kit, please check to see if you are eligible.

Free kits are only available to eligible UK secondary schools teaching children in Year 9 and above. Middle schools are not eligible:

<https://www.bhf.org.uk/heart-health/how-to-save-a-life/cpr-kits/cpr-training-for-schools/are-you-an-eligible-school>

Run, Hide, Tell

You've probably seen the recent 'Run, Hide, Tell' media campaign advising you on what to do in the event of a knife or gun terror attack.

Your school might be tempted to cover this – for example through assemblies or taught lessons – but we **strongly advise** that you wait until KS 3 and 4 lesson plans are published by the PSHE Association on the topic.

This campaign is aimed at pupils aged 11-16, and we urge against covering it in schools with younger children. These quality assured PSHE lesson plans and a film for use in the classroom will follow up the recent media campaign, and these materials will help you to approach this difficult topic sensitively and appropriately.

This is a challenging topic to cover in schools, but PSHE can provide opportunity to do so responsibly as it's important to inform your pupils of what to do in the unlikely event of such incidents, rather than shock them into thinking such attacks are likely or inevitable.

The teacher guidance and lesson plans, produced by the PSHE Association will give you everything you need to deliver this learning safely in your school and will be published by NaCTSO via their website in mid to late October.

Inspection of services for children who have experienced neglect

It is still possible that before the end of term our local area will have a joint targeted inspection of services for children who have experienced neglect. A briefing about the possible inspection was distributed to schools in the summer term and again through your DSLs at the recent NSCB Education Reference sub-group. To refresh your memory please contact Carol Leckie or visit the [.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) website.