



Educational Safeguarding DSL Newsletter



Educational Safeguarding DSL newsletter

Academic year 2024/2025

Edition: 9

Date: 12 February 2025



Contents

Educational Safeguarding DSL newsletter	0
Academic year 2024/2025	0
Edition: 9	0
Date: 12 February 2025	0
Important Updates and Information	3
Core Group Practice Briefing for Professionals.....	3
Signs of Safety	3
Misogyny	3
Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership Newsletter: Learning from Rapid Reviews....	3
Ofsted safeguarding audit.....	3
Get Safe 2025 Social Media Campaigns.....	4
Safer Internet Day – 11 February 2025.....	4
West Mercia Police: survey request in relation to year 7 and 8 students.....	5
KOOOTH.....	5
Police Panel Meeting: specifically for Redditch High schools.....	6
Misogyny	6
The Young Person’s Prevention Project.....	6
UK Feminista's research highlighted in Parliament	6
UK Feminista: Free online teacher training course.....	7
UK Feminista: Live training for your school / college	7
WCC Safeguarding Training and Events	7
WCF DSL network meetings.....	7
How to book.....	8
Additional training / conferences available	8
The Children’s Society Conference: Ending Youth Violence	8
Healthy Relationships – staff training and sessions/support for young people	8
#CUT IT OUT: Raising Awareness of and Tackling Domestic Abuse.....	9
Useful websites	10
Education Safeguarding team contacts	10
Denise Hannibal	10
Hayley Doyle	10
Operation Encompass contact	10
Gem Rainsford-Grady.....	10

Important Updates and Information

Core Group Practice Briefing for Professionals

The core group is the Interagency Forum for achieving the outcomes of a child protection plan. It is comprised of the professionals responsible for delivering particular aspects of the plan, and is attended by parents and children, where appropriate. The membership of the core group is agreed at an initial child protection conference, although this may be amended to include all relevant individuals jointly responsible for delivering the child protection plan.

Core Group Practice Briefing for Professionals is also available on the WSCP website [JN2425.228 Core Group Practice Professionals Briefing](#) for professionals to download.

Signs of Safety

The Signs of Safety approach seeks to strengthen risk assessments and maximise family participation and where possible they actively contribute to solutions to keeping their child safe. To support DSL and Deputy DSL's the latest download the latest [Signs of Safety: a guide for professionals](#).

Misogyny

To support DSL and Deputy DSL's we have included in this DSL newsletter a specific section on Misogyny with the information supplied via Worcester City Council colleagues. Please ensure this section of the DSL newsletter is shared to all DSL / DDSL's in your school / college.

Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership Newsletter: Learning from Rapid Reviews

The statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (December 2023) requires that when a serious incident (normally one where abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and the child has died or been seriously harmed) becomes known to safeguarding partners, they must consider whether the case meets the criteria and guidance for a local review. If safeguarding partners determine that the criteria is met to undertake a local child safeguarding practice review, then a serious incident notification and rapid review must take place.

Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership do complete rapid reviews of cases which do not then progress to full child safeguarding practice reviews (CSPR's). Learning is often identified from these rapid reviews however, and it is as important that such learning is shared from rapid reviews as from our published CSPR's.

The [WSCP Newsletter: Learning from Rapid Reviews \(opens in new window\)](#) focuses on the learning from some of our recent rapid reviews, and we (WSCP) would ask that you take the time to read it and share it with colleagues where appropriate.

Ofsted safeguarding audit

If you have purchased our safeguarding SLA and are due Ofsted within in the next 2 terms, you are eligible to request a self-assessment, safeguarding audit/ single central record review from a member of the Safeguarding team – Denise Hannibal or Hayley Doyle.

Standalone safeguarding support packages

- 1 day on school site

- 1 day research of your schools safeguarding policy and procedures including your website
- A review of your annual Section 175/157 audit, including any actions plans
- A thorough assessment of your Single central record and safer recruitment process
- We will meet with your safeguarding team including the safeguarding Governor
- We will gather the voice of the child
- We will talk to staff and their understanding and knowledge and how to keep children safe
- A comprehensive report including development plan

Single central record health-check

Schools and colleges must maintain a single central record of pre-appointment checks. Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024 Your single central record is a key part of evidence that inspectors will look at when inspecting your school safeguarding Working with the person who is responsible for the maintenance of your Single Central Record (SCR), to help them ensure that it is usable, efficient and compliant. We would also welcome the involvement of your safeguarding governor as the health check can assist them in continued monitoring of the SCR The package includes:

A review of the SCR, comparison with the requirements of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2024) and checking for gaps

- Health check report
- Includes 2 places on the WCF SCR training.
- Telephone and email support
- A follow up visit to check on progress and offer further advice.

To contact the team:

- Denise Hannibal Email: dhannibal@worcestershire.gov.uk / telephone: 01905 844436
- Hayley Doyle Email: hdoyle@worcestershire.gov.uk / telephone: 01905 845230

Get Safe 2025 Social Media Campaigns

Over the next few terms and into the Autumn term, the Safeguarding Team will be supporting a variety of GET SAFE social media campaigns examples include Knife Crime Awareness Week, Child Safety Week, Human Trafficking, Anti-Bullying, GET Safe 6-year anniversary.

As we get closer to the campaign period the Safeguarding Team will share the campaign information / links, and we'd hope that DSL and Deputy DSLs would then share them around their school, to colleagues and colleagues they work closely with in neighbouring schools / within their academy / MAT.

Overall, our aim it so share information, support and increase awareness and understanding of these serious topics

Safer Internet Day – 11 February 2025

11 February was Safer Internet Day, if you missed the posts shared via Social Media, we've detailed them below. The social media campaign also used two images detailing how to "[make yourself a harder target](#)" and "[recovering hacked accounts](#)".

Post 1:

This #SaferInternetDay, double your defences against cyber criminals.

Turning on 2-step verification (2SV) creates double the work for criminals trying to access your online accounts, even if they know your password.

Find out more by visiting <https://stophinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk/protect-yourself-from-fraud/protecting-against-online-fraud/>

Post 2:

You can't stop a criminal attempting to defraud you online, but you can make yourself a harder target.

This #SaferInternetDay, double your defences against cyber criminals by enabling 2-step verification (2SV)

Find out more: <https://stophinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk/protect-yourself-from-fraud/protecting-against-online-fraud/>

Post 3:

If you think one of your online accounts has been hacked, you should report it as a crime to Action Fraud: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk>

Check out this step-by-step guide by @NCSC on how to recover online accounts.

West Mercia Police: survey request in relation to year 7 and 8 students

Cheryl McDornell works for West Mercia Police and as part of her role is to carry out an evaluation of early intervention support services **Steer Clear** and **Climb** on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

To establish **awareness and views** of the services from a school perspective, it would be great if you could **complete this online survey specially focusing on year 7 and 8 students**, it should only take a few minutes of your time. All responses are anonymous (unless you provide your email address for further contact). All responses are confidential.

Survey link: <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/schoolsurveysteerclearandclimb>

Your help is much appreciated and as a reminder *his survey is to complete focusing on year 7 & 8 students only.*

KOOTH

FAO: DSLs, Pastoral Teams, PSHE Leads

Action: Please share details of KOOTH widely with your young people and their families plus on your website, through social media and newsletters/parent communications.

Kooth is free anonymous mental health support available to young people aged 11 - 18 across Worcestershire. This support includes:

- Community support through moderated forums and articles
- Self-help resources and goal setting
- Live chat and message based emotional wellbeing and counselling support
- Signposting and ongoing support if required

This support is anonymous and does not require a referral. To access please just go to:
<https://www.kooth.com/>

If your school would like some hard copy resources, or would like the KOOOTH Engagement Team to deliver a presentation to your young people or staff, please email msmith@kooth.com

You can download the electronic KOOOTH leaflet, for sharing, from the [Google Drive](#).

Police Panel Meeting: specifically for Redditch High schools

Sergeant Charlie Osborne, Redditch – West Mercia Police, is leading on the Redditch Police and Schools Panel.

The purpose of the panel meetings is to prevent young people from becoming involved or further involved in crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) as victims or offenders by providing a consistent, accountable framework for information sharing and police/school partnership work.

The aim of the first meeting is to review the terms of reference and agree dates / times for the year.

The first meeting will be provisionally held on Tuesday 25th February 2025 at 12:00hrs at the new Police & Fire Station on Middlehouse Lane.

If your School DSL is able to attend then charlie.osborne@westmercia.police.uk or call Ext. 01905 974186 | Mobile: 07866 996257, to confirm receipt & attendance at the meeting.

If Redditch High School DSL's are unable to make this date / time then Charlie will look at alternative dates however it is essential to contact her.

Misogyny

The Young Person's Prevention Project

Are unhealthy relationships and misogyny a concern in your school or community? West Mercia Women's Aid, The RightPath and Everyone's Invited have partnered to deliver "The Young Person's Prevention Project", an education and community programme running across West Mercia to tackle misogyny and stereotypes.

Who is the programme for?

The programme is available to all young people across West Mercia. The RightPath and Everyone's Invited will be running awareness raising sessions and workshops in Schools, while West Mercia Women's Aid will offer community-based support, including but not limited to; youth groups, those not in employment, education or training (NEET), those who are home-schooled, looked after children and unaccompanied asylum seeking children. Further details of the programme can be found on the [Young Person's Prevention Project poster \(opens in a new window\)](#)

Further information or to be part of this programme, or to find out more please contact prevention@wmwa.org.uk

UK Feminista's research highlighted in Parliament

UK Feminista and NEU's research has recently been highlighted in Parliament by Katrina Murray MP. ['It's Just Everywhere \(opens in new window\)'](#), reveals that over a third of girls report having been

sexually harassed at school.

UK Feminista's [online resource hub \(opens in new window\)](#) contains guidance and practical resources to support schools to tackle sexism and sexual harassment. This includes classroom activities, tools on taking a whole school approach to tackling sexism, template student and staff surveys, tips for teachers and classroom posters.

UK Feminista: Free online teacher training course

Our (UK Feminista) [online teacher training course \(opens in new window\)](#) equips teachers and trainee teachers with the tools, knowledge and confidence to tackle sexism and sexual harassment.

The course consists of three modules and takes approximately 90 minutes to complete. It includes interactive exercises, case studies, video content and classroom resources.

The course is free to access and can be delivered internally by schools and Initial Teacher Training providers. Participants can complete the course at a time and location of their choosing and everyone who completes the course receives a certificate.

UK Feminista: Live training for your school / college

UK Feminista supports schools to take a whole school approach to tackling sexism – including sexual harassment, sexist language and gender stereotyping. We offer in-house Continuing Professional Development training to equip teachers with the skills, knowledge and confidence to tackle sexism. Our training is also available for Initial Teacher Training providers.

UK Feminista's in-house teacher training sessions can be delivered in-person (on the school or college premises) or online (via Microsoft Teams). The training can be offered as a 1.5 hour, 2.5 hour (half day) or 5 hour (full day) session.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore practical activities that can be used to promote equality in the classroom, as well as strategies and tools for implementing a whole school approach to tackling sexism.

For more information and to book a training session, please email education@ukfeminista.org.uk

WCC Safeguarding Training and Events

WCF DSL network meetings

These meetings are a chance to hear local and national updates, to share good practice and meet other DSLs / Deputy DSLs within Worcestershire.

We advise attending your district date, and the districts have been split as follows:

- Worcester, Wyre Forest and Malvern
- Bromsgrove, Wychavon and Redditch

We appreciate that DSL / Deputy DSL's might not be able to attend their specified district date in which case please book the date you can attend.

Cost: Free

Worcester, Wyre Forest and Malvern

- 18 March 2025, 3pm to 4.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: SCH 10438 / 84976
- 17 June 2025, 3pm to 4.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: SCH 10438 / 84978

Bromsgrove, Wychavon and Redditch

- 20 March 2025, 3pm to 4.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: SCH 10438 / 84977
- 19 June 2025, 3pm to 4.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: SCH 10438 / 84979

How to book

Bookings for any training offered via the Safeguarding SLA 24/25, and not otherwise indicated, need to be booked via CPD <https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/LearnCPD/CoursesSearch.aspx>.

Each School has a CPD Leader login, this must be used to make the bookings and will generally be held by the Head / Deputy Head or SLT, Office /Business or Finance Managers.

Confirmations are issued immediately and go to the delegate email provided at the point of booking, please ensure that you check junk / spam folders for the email.

Additional training / conferences available

The Children's Society Conference: Ending Youth Violence

Supported by the West Mercia Office of Police and Crime Commissioner and led by The Children's Society's Steer Clear (Knife Crime) service with the aim of upskilling professionals in the four counties of West Mercia to understand and respond to young people who are at risk of or carrying weapons that they work with.

During the day delegates will have an opportunity to hear from:

- Youth Endowment Fund
- Superintendent Brian Gibbs & Sergeant Dougall Bell
- Ben Kinsella Trust
- Virtual Decisions
- The Equilibrium Project
- The Children's Society Prevention Team

Delegates will be able to attend two workshops - an AM and PM workshop and these are chosen at the point of booking (using the link below)

- 25 February, 9.15am to 3.30pm, Sixways Stadium Worcester
- Cost: Free
- Book: Via Eventbrite using the following link [Ending Youth Violence Tickets, Tue, Feb 25, 2025 at 9:15 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Healthy Relationships – staff training and sessions/support for young people

[West Mercia Women's Aid \(opens in new window\)](#), [The Rightpath \(opens in new window\)](#) and [Everyone's Invited \(opens in new window\)](#) have teamed up to provide a range of healthy relationship sessions for Schools across West Mercia.

The sessions are free and aimed at years 7, 8 & 9.

Schools can choose from a one-off awareness session to a whole year group or a more intensive set of 3 sessions with 6-8 students. WCC Public Health would encourage you to take up both options and get the most from this great opportunity.

The sessions will cover sexual well-being, healthy relationships, gender stereotypes, misogyny, what harmful behaviours may look like and objectification. The sessions will be interactive and encourage young people to explore these topics in a non-judgemental way enabling them to feel seen and heard.

Staff and DSL's will also be offered a session to help them address these topics in schools which will lead to long term change.

For all enquiries and to make a booking please contact prevention@wmwa.org.uk and sessions are available until 31 March 2025.

#CUT IT OUT: Raising Awareness of and Tackling Domestic Abuse

Both South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership and North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership are working with Martin Lakeman, (Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Consultant) to deliver free sessions in raising awareness around the devastating impact of domestic abuse through the #Cut It Out initiative.

These free sessions are open to any professional working in a school and are free to attend.

1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will experience domestic abuse at some point in their life. #Cut It Out recognises that certain professionals are in a position of privilege with their clients, not only working physically close to them but also very often, they are someone trusted to talk to or confide in. This initiative aims to help professionals recognise the signs of domestic abuse, whilst raising awareness of where they can signpost family members, friends, friends of friends, business colleagues, clients to get help and importantly give professionals the confidence to start that difficult conversation.

South dates / booking process:

- 25 February, 9.30am to 11.30am, Worcester Guild Hall
- 10 March, 9.30am to 11.30am, Worcester Guild Hall

Bookings for South dates are to be made via Eventbrite using the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/southworcestershire-community-safety-partnership-71622964623>

North dates / booking process:

- 24 February, 9.30am to 11.30am, Wyre Forest House
- 26 February, 9.30am to 11.30am, Bromsgrove Rugby Club
- 17 March, 9.30am to 11.30am, Redditch United FC Ground
- 31 March, 9.30am to 11.30am, Bromsgrove Sporting FC ground

Bookings for North dates are to be made via Eventbrite using the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/north-worcestershire-community-safety-partnership-74476138003>

Useful websites

- Education Safeguarding: [Safeguarding support for teachers and education professionals | Worcestershire County Council](#)
- CPD [Courses Search \(worcestershire.gov.uk\)](#)
- KCSIE
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64f0a68ea78c5f000dc6f3b2/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2023.pdf
- Home Office (Prevent) [The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Education Safeguarding team contacts

Denise Hannibal

- Education and Early Year Safeguarding Lead for Safeguarding Education
- Email: dhannibal@worcestershire.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01905 844436

Hayley Doyle

- Area Safeguarding Officer for Safeguarding Education
- Email: Hdoyle@worcestershire.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01905 845230

Operation Encompass contact

Gem Rainsford-Grady

- Operation Encompass Schools: opencompasssch@worcestershire.gov.uk
- Operation Encompass Early Years: opencompasseys@worcestershire.gov.uk
- Email: Ggrady@worcestershire.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01905 728530