



Educational Safeguarding DSL Newsletter



Educational Safeguarding DSL newsletter

Academic year 2024/2025

Edition: 10

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Contents

Educational Safeguarding DSL newsletter	0
Academic year 2024/2025	0
Edition: 10	0
Date: 12 March 2025	0
Important Updates and Information	2
Safeguarding SLA for 25/26	2
Changes to Multi-Agency Child Safeguarding Procedures - Monday 3rd March 2025	2
Private Fostering	2
Worcestershire Schools Marketplace Event	3
Ofsted safeguarding audit.....	3
West Mercia Police: survey request in relation to year 7 and 8 students.....	4
WCC Safeguarding Training and Events	4
Introduction to the Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	4
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) training	5
Effective Governance to Support School Attendance *NEW*	5
WCF DSL network meetings.....	6
Early years and childcare designated safeguarding lead (DSL) training	6
Safeguarding Children in Education – Governors Roles & responsibilities.....	6
Understanding the Single Central Record requirements.....	7
How to book.....	7
Third Party training	7
Child Sexual Abuse Response Pathway.....	7
Useful websites	8
Education Safeguarding team contacts	8
Denise Hannibal	8
Hayley Doyle	8
Operation Encompass contact.....	8
Gem Rainsford-Grady.....	8

Important Updates and Information

Safeguarding SLA for 25/26

We are pleased to confirm that the Safeguarding SLA for 25/26 is now available to purchase via eStore. To download the latest Education Services Directory and see exactly what our SLA covers, visit our [Support Services website and click on the Education Services Directory 25/26 button](#)

For 25/26 year we have some **incredible** discounts available:

- if you have continuously bought into the Safeguarding SLA for the last 4 years (since September 2021) then get a 10% discount: OR
- if you bought into the SLA for 3 consecutive years (aka didn't buy 24/25) then if you buy back in 2025 -2026 you get 5% discount: OR
- if you are completely new to buying the Safeguarding SLA (never bought back in previous years) – 3.5% discount. Please note the discount will be applied once we have received your order.

All discounts are applied once the order has been purchased via eStore.

Changes to Multi-Agency Child Safeguarding Procedures - Monday 3rd March 2025

From Steve Eccleston, Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership Independent Scutineer.

The West Midlands Regional Safeguarding Procedures website will change on 3rd March 2025 when the hosting of the procedures moves from our current supplier Phew to Tri.x. We have worked closely with Tri.x to ensure that the new website includes information from our current procedures that are specific to the West Midlands and that all procedures are compliant with Working Together 2023.

The changes will affect practitioners working in the following local authority areas: Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Herefordshire, Sandwell, Shropshire, Solihull, Stoke on Trent, Telford and Wrekin, Walsall, Warwickshire, Wolverhampton and Worcestershire. If you are a practitioner working in one of these areas, you will need to access procedures via a new link which is <https://westmids-worcestershire.trixonline.co.uk/>. Please note, this link is not yet 'live' but will need to be used on and after Monday 3rd March 2025. This link takes the user directly to the Worcestershire section of the new website, but there will be the option to click back to the main West Midlands landing page from each area portal, which will be useful for agencies that cover more than one partnership area.

It should be noted that existing shortcuts to the outgoing Phew website which have been set up on desktops or mobile phones will need to be changed, albeit a redirection service will be in place for a short period after the change. In addition, arrangements will need to be made to change links currently hosted on staff intranets and other websites.

Private Fostering

Worcestershire Fostering are keen to share the following document with professionals across the county, [Private Fostering: a guide to professionals](#) along with the following notes:

A privately fostered child is a child under 16 (or 18 if disabled) who is being cared for, for 28 days or more, by an adult who is NOT their parent, stepparent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister or brother.

It's usually a cousin or great aunt, a friend of the family, or someone who has agreed to take care of the child by private arrangement without involving the council.

The parent is still legally responsible for their child. Children Services have a legal duty to ensure children in this situation are safe and well.

Examples of private foster care arrangements:

- There are a number of cases in Worcestershire where a birth parent has left the household through relationship break down or are in prison and the child is left in the care of the birth parent's partner. The child will often view this person as a step parent, however if the parent and step parent are not married or in a civil partnership it will fall under Private Fostering Regulations and Children's Services need to be notified.
- Children in this country for education or health care by parents or guardians living overseas. A recent example was a child from Germany whose parents had arranged for a host family to have power of attorney. As the host family is not a close relative this is still private fostering and Children Services need to be notified.
- Teenagers living with a friend's family as a result of problems at home.
- Children on holiday exchanges that last for more than 28 days.

As a school you have a legal duty to notify Children's Social Care of Private Fostering arrangements.

If you require any further information, please contact Geraldine O'Donnell, Team Manager, on 01905 845925.

Worcestershire Schools Marketplace Event

Ever wondered who you can speak to within Worcestershire County Council to find out about services and support your school could access from Human Resources, Schools Finance, Safeguarding and more?

Our marketplace event running on 02 and 03 June from 3pm to 5pm in Worcester is the ideal opportunity for Heads, DSL, Deputy Heads, SLT or any member of staff to take the opportunity to come and speak to various teams.

To support this free event, we are asking schools to inform the training team which date they may attend. This can be done via CPD

<https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/LearnCPD/CoursesSearch.aspx> search code 10560

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

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.*

WCC Safeguarding Training and Events

Introduction to the Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

A specific 6-hour course for NEW Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) and Deputy DSL's to support them in their understand of the role and responsibilities.

Delegates on completion of this course would be expected to progress onto the Full day Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) training course.

Cost: Free to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA

If schools have not purchased the Safeguarding Support SLA then the price is £93 + VAT.

- 08 May 2025, 9am to 4pm, Redditch, course code: 10092 / 850011
- 30 June 2025, 9am to 4pm, Wyre Forest, course code: 10092 / 850012

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) training

Aims and objectives:

- For Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL), designed to **refresh and update** knowledge on the early help and child protection procedures.
- To understand DSL roles and responsibilities
- To understand how and when to make a referral to Family Front Door (FFD)
- To be confident when to share/not share and/or seek advice about information sharing.
- To be confident in undertaking an Early Help Assessment

Cost: Free to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA. If schools have not purchased the Safeguarding Support SLA then the price is £93 + VAT.

Date	Time		CPD course code	CPD session code
04 April 2025	9am to 4pm	Virtual Delivery	10481	85042
09 April 2025	9am to 4pm	Virtual Delivery	10481	85043
30 April 2025	9am to 4pm	Virtual Delivery	10481	85044
09 May 2025	9am to 4pm	Worcester	10481	85045
12 May 2025	9am to 4pm	Redditch	10481	85046
21 May 2025	9am to 4pm	Wyre Forest	10481	85047

Visit CPD and search course code 10481 for dates in June and July 2025

Effective Governance to Support School Attendance *NEW*

This training course explores the role of governors in ensuring schools are meeting their statutory duties relative to attendance. As all schools are required to deliver new statutory expectations to meet DfE 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance' requirements, this course will enable governors to provide support and challenge to drive improvement.

The course aims to assist governors to:

- Explore the governance core functions and their relevance to attendance
- Review how DfE attendance expectations and statutory duties are met
- Champion and support the promotion of attendance through policy and ethos
- Review data, challenge trends and support leaders to focus on strategies towards improvement
- Ensure staff receive adequate training and access to good practice guidance

Cost: £60 + VAT per delegate

- 01 May 2025, 6pm to 8pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10429 / 91363

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 encourage attending your district date, however we appreciate 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

Early years and childcare designated safeguarding lead (DSL) training

This training is specifically for the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Deputy DSL or those who are looking to become the DSL / Deputy DSL in early years and childcare settings across Worcestershire. The training has been devised to support DSL's who are new to the role, experienced and extremely experienced.

Content is updated regularly and includes a detailed look at signs and symptoms, legislation, guidance and responsibilities, record keeping, making referrals, multi-agency working, child protection meetings, serious case reviews, and exploring barriers to good practice.

Cost: £50 + VAT

Cost: Free for schools who have the Safeguarding SLA for 24/25 academic year

- 03 and 10 April 2025, 7pm to 10pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10052 / 91253
- 13 and 20 June 2025, 9.30am to 12.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10052 / 91255
- 09 and 16 July 2025, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10052 / 91256

Safeguarding Children in Education – Governors Roles & responsibilities

This course will:

- inform governors about recent legislative national and local developments in child protection.
- clarify the roles and responsibilities of governors in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in their schools.
- provide a basic awareness of child abuse and the effect it can have on children.

Cost: This course is heavily subsidised to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA

- £63 + VAT for those who have the Safeguarding SLA
- £125 + VAT for those schools who have not purchased the Safeguarding SLA

Date	Time	Delivery style	CPD course code	CPD session code
07 April 2025	6.30pm to 8.30pm	virtual delivery	10123	84988
06 June 2025	10am to 12pm	virtual delivery	10123	84989
14 July 2025	6.30pm to 8.30pm	virtual delivery	10123	84900

Please note this course MUST be booked via the clerk / person who books your governing board training.

Understanding the Single Central Record requirements

A two-hour course delivered virtually that will look at what is a Single Central Record (SCR), why we need a SCR, who is responsible for the SCR and what are the statutory requirements from Ofsted.

Audience: Anyone reviewing or managing the Single Central Record (SCR) for example Business / Finance Manager, Safeguarding Governor, Head or Deputy Head, administrative staff.

Cost: This course is heavily subsidised to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA

- For schools with the Safeguarding SLA - £53 + VAT
- For schools WHO HAVE NOT purchased the Safeguarding SLA - £95+ VAT
- 02 April 2025, 9.30am to 11.30am, virtual delivery, course code: 10174 / 84984
- 04 June 2025, 9.30am to 11.30am, virtual delivery, course code: 10174 / 84985

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.

Third Party training

Child Sexual Abuse Response Pathway

Child Sexual Abuse Response Pathway Webinar and Training dates for March to July 2025 have been planned. The training has been led by Solihull Children's Services who in collaboration with all regional Children's Services, Policing and other agencies are aiming to embed the CSA Centre's response pathway for the West Midlands, Warwickshire, West Mercia and Staffordshire.

The training is open to all professionals within Worcestershire who work with other agencies and is suitable for frontline staff and those in strategic roles.

Download the [Child Sexual Abuse Response Pathway webinar and training dates](#).

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: opencompassseys@worcestershire.gov.uk
- Email: Ggrady@worcestershire.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01905 728530