



Child Protection Newsletter

ISSUE NO. 79 July 2021

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Welcome

This will be the last newsletter before the end of term in what has been a very different year for all of us. Covid-19 is still very much with us and may well be a feature as we approach Autumn. Updates and guidance will be forthcoming over the summer but due to national events, this could be delayed...watch this space!

In all the articles below, we include links to external websites. These will be in [blue text](#) for you to click on so you can then read the full information regarding that topic. Please tell us if you have any issues with any of the links provided.

The Education People

[The Education People](#) provide services to support early years through to young adults with over 800 products and services available. DSLs can register on The Education People website to receive an email when a new Safeguarding [blog post](#) is added. If you are already registered, you can opt to add an email **notification under your 'my account' settings.**

Education Safeguarding Service (ESS)

Very soon we will be welcoming back two of our safeguarding advisors, Gemma Willson and Claire Ledger, after maternity leave and new arrivals. It will be great to have them back in what is likely to be a busy year ahead!

As a reminder, we continue to update our [safeguarding pages](#) on The Education People website regularly to act as a one-stop shop for DSLs. Make sure you visit the site and bookmark it for future reference!

Although safeguarding is a competitive market, we feel that we can provide guidance, advice, training and support unique to working within Kent which cannot be offered by other providers. If you are unable to find a training product or service that meets your needs on this [link](#), please [contact us](#) and we can look at designing something bespoke for your setting.

End of Term Preparation

As you approach the end of the academic year for 2020-21 you should ensure that you are confident you are supporting children with additional safeguarding/welfare concerns over the summer holidays and beyond. Additionally, for children who are transferring from your setting to another, you need to ensure that you have done all you can to make that transition as smooth as possible.



Now is a good time for Safeguarding Leads and their teams to review the children and young people they have had concerns about over recent months:

- Have you liaised with their parents/carers or other professionals where appropriate?
- Have you considered all the information you hold holistically, considering all concerns, risks and all protective factors?
- What is your analysis of need; are there supports that need to be put in place for the duration of the break, have you spoken with the child/young person and heard their views wishes and any worries they may have?
- Are there [services](#) you can refer the family to such as foodbanks, Citizens advice and similar local charities if they have financial worries.
- Does the parent need to know about services to protect and support where alcohol or domestic abuse is involved?
- Are they aware of services such as the Samaritans or other listening services for those who are experiencing poor mental health or emotional wellbeing?

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021 Now Available

The draft 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) guidance was postponed temporarily due to the Ofsted Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges but has now (6.7.21) been published [for September 2021](#). Annex G contains a list of substantive changes.



The DfE have also updated the '[Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges](#)' guidance.

We recommend DSLs and school/college leaders read KCSIE 2021 in its entirety, however a summary of key changes are:

- Extensive updates and increased content relating to peer on peer abuse throughout part one, two and five. Including:
 - An emphasis that victims should be taken seriously, kept safe and never be made to feel like they are creating a problem for reporting abuse, sexual violence or sexual harassment.
 - Updated references to the UKCIS guidance on the sharing of nude and semi-nude images.
 - Part two contain additional content regarding reporting systems and information schools and colleges should include in their child protection policy.
 - Part five contains clarification about regularly reviewing actions e.g. for patterns of inappropriate behaviour and bail considerations, and a new section on unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious reports
- Updated content in part one relating to mental health, serious violence, contextual safeguarding and record keeping.
- New content in part two relating to a 'Whole school and college approach to safeguarding'.
- New paragraphs in part two regarding online safety training for staff and the requirement to ensure children are taught about safeguarding, including online safety.
- Part two contains a new section covering online safety, remote learning, filters and monitoring, information security, cybercrime, reviewing online safety provision and information and support.
- Part three has been substantively restructured to align it with the recruitment process, however legal duties have not changed.
- Part four has been separated into two sections – Section one for allegations that may meet the threshold and Section Two for allegations/concerns that do not meet the threshold i.e. low level concerns.
- There is now a condensed 'Part one' of KCSIE available as 'Annex A' which can be provided to staff who do not directly work with children, if the governing body or proprietor think it is appropriate.
- Annex B has been updated with additional content regarding Child Criminal Exploitation, Child Sexual Exploitation, Modern Slavery and the National Referral Mechanism, County lines, Cybercrime, Peer on Peer abuse and preventing radicalisation.
- Annex C contains additional information for DSLs about keeping and storing records, where a concern about a child has been identified.
- The content from the 2020 annex C 'Online Safety' has been integrated throughout the document to ensure online safety is clearly established as part of schools and colleges safeguarding responsibilities. Annex D now provides signposting to resources.

ESS Policy Templates and DSL Training Pack Updates

Due to the late release of KCSIE 2021, we are now starting to review and update our policy templates and guidance for 2021. We anticipate this work will take place throughout July and early August and updated documents will be published on the Education People website as soon as possible.

- Our statutory child protection policy templates can be found on the [TEP website](#).
- Information about our training packs which DSLs can use to provide staff training, can be found on our [Training and Services page](#) under 'Reviews and other services'.
- Please note access to our school DSL training packs and additional optional policy and guidance documents is included in our new '[Safeguarding Support Package](#)'.

Covid-19 Advice and Support

Whisper it quietly but we may be getting back to life which resembles normality. However, the lasting effects of Covid-19 will be felt professionally and personally for many of us for some considerable time. We know many schools have opened up more, but others are waiting for September term to try and get back to normal. Some schools have learnt some useful lessons from using bubbles and are considering keeping it in some form going forward.

Even though many schools have now re-opened fully some families may still be reluctant to return their children to school or their attendance will remain poor. Some children continue to state that they are anxious about Covid-19 and with the concern about the Delta variant and delay to re-opening it can be hard to convince them otherwise. In terms of whether matters need to be escalated it would be useful in these situations to consider completing the [Safeguarding Toolkit](#) to help you decide. Also have a discussion with your attendance and inclusion team about whether you need to get tougher around attendance and what would satisfy you that parents and some young people have made efforts to try and address their anxiety and related emotional wellbeing.

As always, if you have concerns about children from your setting, please contact your [Area Safeguarding Advisor](#) for support regarding the next steps.

Ofsted Review of Sexual Abuse in Schools & Updated Handbooks

Review of Sexual Abuse in Schools

In June, Ofsted published a review into sexual abuse in schools. The review comprised: 32 visits to schools and colleges; the experience of 900 children and young people;



Consultation with leaders, teachers, governors, Local Safeguarding Partnerships, parents and stakeholders, the extent to which inspection has given oversight and the role of statutory guidance. The focus of the review focused on the areas of safeguarding and curriculum, multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and victims' voice and reporting. The full report can be found [here](#).

As we wrote in the last newsletter whilst the behaviour described by those interviewed could be considered a societal problem, there are clearly areas where education settings need to improve their processes and responses. It is likely that more guidance will be forthcoming over the summer.

Updated Ofsted Inspection Handbooks

On the 28th June, Ofsted [published updated Inspection handbooks](#) clarifying how inspectors will assess how schools and colleges confront sexual harassment, abuse and violence among children and young people. These changes will take place in inspections in schools/colleges from [September 2021](#) and include:

- Inspectors will expect leaders to assume that sexual harassment, online sexual abuse and sexual violence are happening in and around their school, even when there are no specific reports, and to have put in place a whole-school approach to address them.
- Inspectors will consider how schools/colleges handle allegations and incidents of sexual abuse between children and young people when they do occur.
- Inspectors will look at the preventative measures in place to guard against sexual harassment and abuse, including behaviour policies, pastoral support and the relationships, sex and health education (RSHE) curriculum.
- Ofsted will expect schools/colleges to be alert to factors that increase children's potential vulnerability to sexual abuse, and to understand and address the barriers that could prevent a child or young person from reporting an incident.
- Where schools/colleges do have not adequate processes in place, it is likely that safeguarding will be considered ineffective. This can impact on the 'leadership and management' judgement and the overall grade is likely to be 'inadequate'.

We encourage DSLs to work with their leadership team to review existing safeguarding policies and procedures and curriculum approaches and implement any necessary changes. DSLs should consider what evidence exists to document action already taken to ensure there are whole-school approaches regarding preventing and responding to peer on peer abuse, including sexual violence and harassment.

The [Early Years handbook](#) has also been updated to reflect changes implemented as a result of Covid-19 and also the implementation of the EYFS from September 2021. The handbook states that where the expectations in the 'Inspecting safeguarding in the early years, education and skills settings' differ from those set out in the EYFS, settings should follow the EYFS requirements. DSLs in early years settings should therefore read these documents and ensure they are familiar with the welfare requirements from September 2021.

'Introduction to the Front Door Service'

The Front Door Service is the first point of contact for professionals and the public who are concerned about a child in Kent and process all safeguarding referrals (Requests for Support) made to Kent Children's Social Work Services.



The Front Door Team are offering partner agencies the opportunity to learn more about their service by inviting staff to attend an 'Introduction to the Front Door Service' presentation. These sessions will be held on the first Friday of each month and last for approx. one hour, starting at 1pm. Future dates are:

- 3rd September
- 1st October
- 5th November
- 3rd December

If you would like to attend any of the presentations, please contact either [Gabrielle Rowland](#) or [Sonja Norwood](#) who will forward an invitation link to the presentation.

Directory of Services

In an effort to be able to update and share local information in an even faster, more responsive way, this summer Kent County Council will be moving these into an East Area Directory of Services, using the online Microsoft Sway platform, to accompany the [County and National Support Services](#) directory (the County information having been helpfully collated by our colleagues in the North of the County). The directory will be a work in progress and will not have covered everything, therefore, please contact Jenny.Hanna@kent.gov.uk if you have or are aware of a service you wish to add or amend, or if you have any feedback about the format or navigation.

Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership (KSCMP) Escalation Survey



Over recent months, escalation and issues related to this have emerged as a theme across a number of local cases. To help KSCMP understand this and to inform what the partnership needs to do to address it, they need your insight and feedback. As such, KSCMP have developed an [escalation survey](#). This short survey is anonymous and aims to capture the views and experiences of professionals from a wide range of different agencies. In particular, KSCMP would like to better understand the experiences and thoughts of frontline staff. Your feedback really does make a difference and will be listened to! Please access the survey [here](#).

The Education People: Wellbeing Toolkit for Parents



The Education People have continued to extend our mental health and wellbeing support for education professionals by setting up a national and international network for mental health leads. In addition to this our mental health and wellbeing consultant,

Kelly Hannaghan, has also launched a [wellbeing toolkit for parents](#). This is a series of four webinars delivered by two experts in the field of wellbeing and anxiety. There is a specific webinar that focuses on how to support children with autism around their possible increased levels of anxiety. Parents and carers will receive practical strategies and solutions to the issues that they may currently be experiencing. The cost is £20.

Saving Lives Innovation Fund now open



The latest Saving Lives Innovation Fund is now open on the [KCC Website](#). This is the 4th round of funding which is designed to fund new or emerging community level programmes across Kent & Medway. There is at least £250,000 available, of which a minimum of £50,000 must go to projects supporting children and young people. They are particularly looking to fund projects which address the needs of the risk groups identified in their [2021-25 Strategy](#). For more information please [click here](#). The closing date for applications is Thursday 22nd July. If you would like to help assess applications (and are not looking to apply yourself), please email Hollie.Brennan@kent.gov.uk.

Early Years and Childcare

Risk by Association Question



It has come to our attention that some early years settings including nurseries, pre-schools and foundation stage schools may still be asking potential new staff about declaring risk by association issues. The guidance was updated back on the 31st of August 2018 and came into force on 3rd September 2018. A change in the law means that Disqualification by Association will only apply on domestic premises, most likely childminders. However, Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006, still applies to staff themselves.

Schools and early years settings must no longer ask about the cautions or convictions of someone living or working in their household. Schools will need to review any historic data collected and destroy any information which is no longer required. However, this does not mean that as an employer you cannot continue to foster a safe culture whereby it is the expectation that staff inform the setting where their own relationships and associations, both within and outside of the workplace (including online), may have implications for the safeguarding of children in the school. The [safer working practices guidance \(2019\)](#) will assist you with this.

Staff Safeguarding Training Pack for DSLs in Early Years Settings available

Following the successful launch of our training pack for DSLs in schools to use to deliver staff training, we received a number of enquiries from



DSLs in Early Years settings with requests to produce a similar resource for them.

This resource pack, including a PowerPoint presentation and guidance document is now available to purchase on [the Education People](#) website. Please be aware that this pack is for use by EYDSLs within their own setting only. Currently the resources are in line with EYFS 2017 and KCSIE 2020, however they will be updated over the summer to reflect EYFS 2021 content.

Safeguarding Package for Schools

We are delighted to announce that our '[Safeguarding Support Package for Schools](#)' is now available for schools in Kent and beyond! We believe this offer will provide DSLs and school leaders will provide cost effective benefits and support with exclusive access to content from our service.

Membership to the package includes:

- Access to child protection and online safety staff training resource packs for DSLs to use with school staff
- Access to a staff basic safeguarding awareness induction e-learning course
- Access to a downloadable DSL resource library, including comprehensive guidance and time-saving templates such as record keeping guidance, self-evaluation tools, online safety policy template, anti-bullying policy template, use of social media toolkit and many more!
- Annual update service, including updates to existing library content, e-learning and training resources, plus a minimum of 6 new resources added to the library per year
- 1 free place at each of our six new one hour DSL Webinar Briefing twilight sessions

The cost for an annual subscription to the '[Safeguarding Support Package for Schools](#)' is £510 plus VAT ([credits](#) can also be used to purchase this package) which provides schools with a significant saving compared to purchasing content on an individual basis.

Additionally, whilst some resources and training within the package will be available to purchase on an adhoc basis, some of the resource library content will be exclusive to members only, for example our safeguarding and online safety self-audit tools. For further information or to make an order, please visit the [Education People Website](#).

TEP Safeguarding Training Offer for 2021-22

Core Safeguarding Training Offer

Following very positive feedback from delegates (95%+ very/extremely satisfied feedback for core training and 100% for



bespoke staff training), we will be providing a blended core training offer for 2021-22, incorporating different options for schools and settings to accommodate different preferences and budgets.

For clarification, our core training offer for schools and early years settings will be made up of the following options for 2021-22.

New to role DSLs	<p>New DSLs in schools and settings can access live training, either via Zoom or face to face options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoom training will take place over two half day sessions. • For those who prefer a face to face option, a one day training session option will be available from November.
Refresher Training for existing DSLs	<p>Existing DSLs who require refresher training can access our Schools DSLR e-Learning course or for early years DSLs, our Early Years DSLR e-Learning course. Because e-Learning does not allow for delegate interaction, we have made the decision to make this training valid for 1 year rather than two, however the price is reduced to reflect this additional requirement. The DSLR and EYDSLRL e-Learning courses can be accessed at any time.</p> <p>For DSLs who prefer face to face training or prefer to attend a course which will be valid for 2 years, this option should be available from November 2021.</p>
Online Safety for DSLs in Schools	<p>For DSLs in schools who wish to access our specific online safety training, the options will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two half day sessions via Zoom (November and January) • One day face to face option (April and June)
Early Years Basic Awareness (EYBA) Training	<p>Core EYBA training will be available for early years practitioners via Zoom.</p>
Early Years Online Safety Training	<p>Two online safety e-Learning courses are available for early years settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Online Safeguarding for Early Years Practitioners • Strategic Online Safeguarding for Early Years Designated Safeguarding Leads and Managers

All core training dates are published and available to book via the [CPD website](#). Whilst we are planning to resume offering core training via a face to face option from November 2022, this will depend on Covid-19 restrictions at the time and may be subject to change. Please be aware that due to current Covid restrictions, we do not have confirmed venues specified yet for face to face training options.

- [Schools dates](#)
- [Early Years dates](#)

If you have queries or comments about our training offer, please contact your Area Safeguarding Advisor or the [Training and Development Manager](#).

Childminder Training Pilot

For 2020-21 our childminder training was available via an e-Learning course. For 2021-22, we are exploring the offer of a Zoom training session. A two hour evening pilot session will take place on the 28th September 2021. The cost of attending the interactive Zoom course will be £45 and subject to delegate feedback and attendance, we hope to make further dates available throughout the year.

[Childminder Training: Safeguarding Children and Thresholds](#) EYC 21/233

New Training Products: School Induction eLearning and DSL Webinars

As part of our Safeguarding Support package, we have added two new optional training products - DSL twilight webinar briefings and a [basic safeguarding awareness induction e-learning course for school staff](#). Access to these resources is included for package members, however we have also made these training resources available for schools to purchase on an ad hoc basis.

DSLs will be able to book the twilight webinar briefings (all running 4pm-5pm) via the CPD website, and the dates and topics currently planned for 2021-22 are:

Course	Course Code	Date
Peer-on-Peer Abuse	SCH 21/809	20/10/2021
Safe Culture and Managing Allegations	SCH 21/810	08/12/2021
Online Safety	SCH 22/099	08/02/2022
Safeguarding Priorities	SCH 22/100	24/03/2022
Supervision in Schools	SCH 22/101	11/05/2022
Management of Safeguarding	SCH 22/102	05/07/2022

Bespoke Safeguarding Staff Training Requests

The team will continue to offer bespoke inset and twilight whole school training, early years basic awareness and staff online safety training, subject to capacity. We will continue to be flexible with how this is offered, for example face to face training will be available subject to Covid-19 restrictions, however if schools and settings prefer, we deliver remote staff training where settings are able to provide an appropriate platform. Please contact the team to discuss any bespoke staff training requests.

Reminder: UKCIS 'Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people'

Over the past few weeks, the online safety team have received a number of calls from primary schools relating to children taking or sharing nude or semi-nude images of either themselves or their peers. In many of these cases, schools were not aware of the national UKCIS '[Sharing nudes and semi-nudes](#)' guidance or thought that it was not relevant for primary schools.



The guidance is a practical document which will support DSLs respond effectively to incidents involving the sharing of nude and semi-nude images by children of all ages, not just teenagers. We therefore recommend that DSLs from all education settings access this guidance to ensure they are familiar with the content.

New ESS Online Safety Products: Social Media Toolkit and Online Safety DSL Training Pack

As part of our [Safeguarding Support Package for Schools](#), we have added two additional online safety resources which schools and settings can purchase. Access to both of these resources is included for package members, however, we have also made these resources available for schools and settings to purchase on an ad hoc basis.

The [Whole School Online Safety Training Pack for DSLs](#) has been developed following requests from schools for specific online safety training resources for DSLs to use. Much like our [Whole School DSL pack](#), this resource includes a PowerPoint presentation template for DSLs to adapt and a supporting guidance document specific to online safety. Currently the pack is based on the KCSIE 2020 but will be updated once KCSIE 2021 is available.



The [Official Use of Social Media Toolkit for Educational Settings](#) has been updated and developed to help educational setting leaders make informed choices about using social media. The updated toolkit includes considerations about safe practice, specific guidance regarding some popular social media channels and editable tools and templates.

Updated 'Appropriate Filtering and Monitoring Definitions' for 2021

The [UK Safer Internet Centre \(UKSIC\)](#) has published updated 'appropriate' filtering and monitoring definitions for 2021



following a public consultation. The definitions should help education leaders understand what is considered 'appropriate'. The revised definitions include:

- [2021 Appropriate Filtering definitions](#)
 - The availability of, or extent to which, content is contextually filtered
 - The availability of, or extent to which, remote devices (i.e. at home) are able to receive school based filtering
- [2021 Appropriate Monitoring definitions](#)
 - Expansion on the presentation of any Internet logfile information
 - Clarity as to the physical location of monitoring data
 - The capability of, or extent to which, remote devices (i.e. at home) are monitored by technology monitoring services
 - The inclusion of, or extent to which, visual content is monitored and analysed by technology monitoring services

New Online Safety Resources

'Report Remove' Tool Now Live

In the first three months of this year, the [IWF](#) has seen reports of self-generated images more than double compared with the same period last year, increasing from 17,500 to 38,000. Many children have contacted [Childline](#) with concerns about self-generated imagery, and the worry they experience once this has been shared.



To help combat this issue, the IWF and Childline have launched '[Report Remove](#)' - a unique, free tool which enables children to report nude or sexual images and videos of themselves that might have been shared, to see if they can be removed from the internet.

Young people are supported by Childline throughout the process, which includes proving their age using [Yoti](#) if they are 13-17. Children can expect the same level of confidentiality that they would from all their interactions with Childline. Once a report is submitted, the IWF expert analysts assess the content and if determined to be illegal, work to have it removed in accordance with UK Law. We encourage DSLs to share this resource for their community as appropriate.

UKCIS: Digital Passport

The UKCIS [Vulnerable Users Working Group \(VUWG\)](#) have launched a new resource for care experienced children and young people and their carers. Talking regularly about their digital life with a trusted adult is an essential way to help keep children safe online and this is particularly important for those who have had adverse childhood experiences.



The [UKCIS Digital Passport](#) provides structure and resources to support conversations for both children and carers and includes sections for children to express their feelings, hopes and interests, and content for foster carers and other professionals. An online hub is available on the [Internet Matters website](#) with various formats to help ensure it is as accessible as possible.

New Digiduck Activity Menu for Educators

Childnet have launched a brand-new menu of [free follow up activities as part of their hugely popular Digiduck Collection](#). The Digiduck® collection, currently contains three books, for children aged 3-7, which cover themes such as friendship, responsibility, and critical thinking in a sensitive and age-appropriate way.



To help complement the books, an extensive menu of free follow up activities has been created and can be found on the [Digiduck resource page](#). There are over 20 activities to choose from, depending on the time and resources available

'CyberSprinters' Games and Activities

'[CyberSprinters](#)' is a new online game to help primary schools teach children aged 7 to 11 about cyber security from an early age. It is a free interactive game, designed to make learning about cyber security fun and interactive and has been developed by the National Cyber Security Centre - a part of GCHQ.



Finally, if you have any questions on the articles, or the need for safeguarding advice, please contact the team using the details provided. This safeguarding newsletter is published by the Education Safeguarding Service and issued to schools, early years providers and local authority staff. For this newsletter to be effective, please ensure that it is shared with staff, including all Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Head Office: Room 2.30 Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XQ	
Claire Ray Head of Service	03000 415788
Rebecca Avery Training & Development Manager	03000 418707
Online Safety	03000 415797
<p>For advice on safeguarding issues please call your area office on the numbers listed below.</p> <p>If a child may be at risk of imminent harm you should call the Integrated Front Door on 03000 411111 or the Police on 999</p>	
Ashford	03000 415648
Canterbury	03000 418503
Dartford	03000 412445
Dover	03000 415648
Folkestone & Hythe	03000 415648
Gravesham	03000 412445
Maidstone	03000 412284
Sevenoaks	03000 412445
Swale	03000 418503
Thanet	03000 418503
Tonbridge & Malling	03000 412284
Tunbridge Wells	03000 412284

Kent County Council Key Contacts

Integrated Front Door: 03000 411111 (outside office hours **03000 419191**)
Early Help Contacts (district teams) can be found on www.kelsi.org.uk

LADO Team contact number: 03000 410888

If your call is urgent i.e. a child is in **immediate danger** and you cannot be connected to the team you should call the Integrated Front Door on
03000 41 11 11

Email: kentchildrenslado@kent.gov.uk

Kroner House, Eurogate Business Park, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8XU

Area Education Officers

South Kent – Celia Buxton 03000 421415

East Kent – Marisa White 03000 418794

West Kent – Nick Abrahams 03000 410058

North Kent – Ian Watts 03000 414302

Prevent Education Officers

North/West/ Medway - Sally Green sally.green2@kent.gov.uk 03000 413439

South/East - Jill Allen jill.allen@kent.gov.uk 03000 413565