



Safe to Learn



Northumberland Children and Adults Safeguarding Partnership with Northumberland Virtual School

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

Issue 66: July 2022 – End of Term

Contact Information

**Operation
Endeavour**

Supporting children through key adults

Please could you make sure that the Schools Safeguarding Team has up to date contact information for the DSLs 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.

**Operation
Encompass**

Supporting children through key adults

Notifying Parents/Carers

All schools in Northumberland are Operation Encompass and Operation Endeavour schools and you must notify parents of this. The end of this term and beginning of the new academic year are both good times to remind parents, and it's especially important that new parents/carers are notified. The template letters have recently been updated and are available for you to cut and paste from the **DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint** site, in the Operation Encompass and Endeavour folder. You can also add the letters and logos to your school website.



There is an up-to-date list of DASV support services available in the DASV folder on the DSL in Schools' and APs' SharePoint site, please share this information with parents and carers via your website, newsletters and through signage in schools. DASV incidents rise during school holidays so it's helpful for families to have this information before you break up for summer.

Supporting attendance when schools return

We know some pupils may find it challenging to return to school after the summer holidays and this will be a key focus for you – take a look at the [information and guidance to help you support pupil attendance](#). There is also a [new blog post from several teachers](#) who have shared their approaches to increase attendance levels.

The latest DfE Guidance [Working Together to Improve School Attendance, September 2022](#) - makes clear the link between poor attendance and under achievement, and how that affects the most vulnerable children. The Children's Commissioner has launched:

[A range of resources for children, young people and schools to help with attendance](#)

There is also an attendance themed assembly template available, aimed at year six pupils to help them with their transition to secondary school, which can be adapted to suit your school.

Check out again the advice shared with you as DSLs in the newsletter focusing on attendance from the project to promote the education of children with a social worker.

More about the new guidance and the development of Northumberland's new attendance strategy will emerge at the beginning of the new year from the Education Welfare Service.



DSL Holiday Cover



The Schools Safeguarding Team has put a DSL Holiday Cover Template on the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint Site, **in the Operation Encompass and Operation Endeavour folder**, and there is also a copy of the template attached to the email containing this issue of Safe To Learn. It would be very helpful to Children's Services, if you could allocate cover over the school summer holidays and complete the template, please.

This will enable Children's Services to contact the appropriate person from your school in an emergency, or to let you know if there is going to be an Initial Child Protection Conference for a child in your school, should you wish to attend or send important information. When you have completed the form, please send it via email to Carol Leckie or Victoria Kinneavy (contact details for the Schools Safeguarding Team are at the end of this issue).

RSE and RHE Delivery

The Schools Safeguarding Team have recently been alerted to the fact that a number of organisations are contacting schools offering to deliver Relationship and Sex Education and Relationship and Health Education, some of which are not offering a balanced and appropriate curriculum to children and young people. If you are considering using any visiting organisations to deliver content from the RSE and RHE curriculum to your students, please ensure that any organisations you choose to use are delivering balanced and appropriate views to your students and that this is in line with your Relationship and Sex Education Policy, and in line with KCSiE 2021/2022. Particular attention should be given to KCSiE 2022 paragraphs 202 – 204



Paragraph 204: *LGBT inclusion is part of the statutory Relationships Education, Relationship and Sex Education and Health Education curriculum and there is a range of support available to help schools counter homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying and abuse.*

Risks can be compounded where children who are LGBT lack a trusted adult with whom they can be open. If schools invite visiting organisations into school, which profess ideas that would make it difficult for a child to seek the support of a trusted adult in school, they are putting that child at risk and are not fulfilling their safeguarding duty to that child.

DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint



All DSLs in Northumberland have been invited to access the **DSLs in Schools and APs SharePoint** site. If you are having difficulties accessing the site, please contact Justine Clephane 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 been added to the site since the last full Safe To Learn (Issue 64) was sent out on 17th June:

DfE Documents and Guidance Folder:

- Behaviour in Schools – Advice for headteachers and school staff July 2022

Education of Children with a Social Worker Folder:

- Education of Children with a Social Worker Newsletter – Issue 4, 13th July 2022

Locality Briefings Folder:

- June 2022 presentation

NCASP Folder:

- Missing Protocol
- Responding to harmful sexual behaviours

Operation Encompass Folder:

- Updated Operation Encompass and Operation Endeavour template letters – please make sure these letters are sent out before the end of term and again at the beginning of term.
- Holiday cover template

Practice Reviews Folder:

- Caitlin practice review
- George practice review

Schools Safeguarding Team SLA Folder

- Details of the Schools Safeguarding Team SLA – see what is available to support your school or setting to safeguard children and young people

Training folder

- Schools Safeguarding Team Training Dates for academic year 2022 – 2023 – New governor training added

Schools Safeguarding Team – Training Events



New DSL Roles and Responsibilities Training (Day 1) Monday 26th September 1.00 - 3.30pm (Virtual) **New DSL Roles and Responsibilities Training** (Day 2) Friday 7th October 10.00am - 12.30pm (Virtual)
New DSL Roles and Responsibilities Training (Day 3) **The Referral Process** Friday 14th October 10.00am - 12.30pm (Face-to-face training at Northumbria House, Cramlington)

DSL Refresher Training – Wednesday 21st September 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Wednesday 19th October 1.00pm - 3.00pm

NSSP Locality Safeguarding Briefings – Tuesday 29th November, Wednesday 30th November, Thursday 1st December, all running virtually from 3.45 - 5.00 pm. Please choose one of the locality briefings to attend, it is not necessary to attend more than one.

If you would like to book on any training events delivered by the Schools Safeguarding Team (SST) please go to the SLA Portal: <https://northumberlandeducation.co.uk/services-to-schools/> click on the word 'here' once you have followed the link.

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. **For further SST Training for 2022 – 2023, please go to the DSL in Schools and APs SharePoint site as all dates are listed in the training folder.**

Governor Training – New Dates Added

To support schools and settings to meet the new requirements around Governor training, as outlined in KCSiE 2022, the Schools Safeguarding Team has added additional dates for Governor training early in the new academic year.

Governor training can now be accessed on the following dates:

Thursday 8th September 4.30 pm – 6.00 pm – **New date**

Tuesday 20th September 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm

Thursday 22nd September 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm – **New date**

Thursday 29th September 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm

Tuesday 4th October 6.30 pm – 8.00 pm – **New date**

Tuesday 11th October 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm

Monday 17th October 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm



To book any of these dates, please go to the Northumberland Education SLA portal by following this link: <https://northumberlandeducation.co.uk/services-to-schools/> Once on the SLA Portal home page, click on the word **here**

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

Justine Clephane, Schools Safeguarding Consultant, 07879 874168

Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk

Victoria Kinneavy, Schools Safeguarding Consultant, 07966 325300

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
- If you have a query for the Education Welfare Team, please email - educationwelfare@northumberland.gov.uk
- If you have a query for the looked after children's Team, please email - eslac.info@northumberland.gov.uk
- If you have a query for the EOTAS Team, please email - eotashealth@northumberland.gov.uk
- If you have a more urgent query or request, please telephone 01670 622787.