



Safeguarding Update

Autumn Term 2021

Dear All,

Welcome back to the new school year!

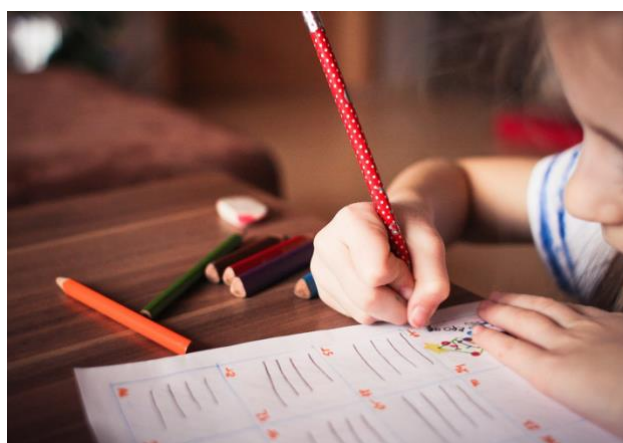
We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer and now feel ready for the term ahead!

As you may recall we sent a summer term Safeguarding Update at the end of last term and this one follows hot on its heels. We've kept some of the key information from July in this newsletter so that you have everything safely to hand.

At Learning Academies we collectively take our responsibilities in regards to Safeguarding extremely seriously. We work hard to keep everyone as safe as possible, our students, tutors, families and all who work as part of the Learning Academies team.

We work in partnership with a range of organisations to maintain a safe learning environment for all, including SAFE CIC, the NSPCC, Essex Safeguarding Board and GBG to name but a few. As an organisation, we believe that **safeguarding is everyone's responsibility** and by encouraging each other to remain vigilant and well informed we can all play an important part in this endeavour. We want you to feel confident and well informed – able to respond effectively if a concern arises.

Our termly newsletters pull together information from our key partners and other national briefings and we encourage you to read through this latest Safeguarding Update to ensure you remain up to date with changes and developments, on both a local and national basis - particularly in the ongoing climate of Covid-19. We'd like to pass on our thanks, as ever to SAFE CIC for their ongoing safeguarding support and to Jo Barclay, Head of Education Safeguarding and Wellbeing Education Directorate, for Essex County Council whose termly updates help inform this update.



Learning Academies - Covid Update

During the first 'lockdown' we added a Covid 19 Amendment to our Safeguarding Policy and completed a Coronavirus Risk Assessment. Both documents, along with an Online Zoom Safety Guide. These have been added to our website and shared previously. From September 2021 we are following Government Guidance in regards to our move back towards Face-to-Face working. The current Government Guidance on the return to schools can be accessed [here](#) and recommends that, wherever possible, Face to Face Learning is restored.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

Our two Covid Response documents remain relevant. For your convenience all five Covid related documents can be found via links below and on the [SAFEGUARDING PAGE](#) of our website. As ever, please maintain good control measures such as effective hygiene practices, keeping closed spaces well ventilated and follow the public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing COVID 19 confirmed cases as reiterated in the guidance above.

Modern Slavery



Awareness training.

Modern slavery is a heinous and often hidden crime. It includes slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking. The impact can be devastating for the victims. We encourage all members of the Learning Academies team to remain vigilant at all times. One of our Designated Safeguarding Leads is holds a Level 2 Qualification in Raising Awareness of Trafficking and Modern Slavery. Both have completed

In 2016, 3,805 potential victims were identified and referred in the UK. In the year to March 2017 the police in England and Wales recorded 2,255 modern slavery crimes. However, many more crimes and victims go undetected.

Increased awareness and reporting helps law enforcement to tackle the perpetrators of modern slavery as well as protecting victims.

This [modern slavery awareness booklet](#) provides an up-to-date, easy to read resource setting out some of the key facts about modern slavery.

Topics covered include:

- the definition of modern slavery and the prevalent types in the UK
- spotting the signs of modern slavery
- victims and barriers to reporting

To supplement this, Home Office research '[A typology of modern slavery offences in the UK](#)' has broken down the broad categories of modern slavery into 17 distinct types of offences identified in the UK.

Videos

- The Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) has produced a range of [videos on how to spot the signs of modern slavery](#), methods used by traffickers to exploit their victims, and victims accounts
- The [Independent Anti Slavery Commissioner \(IASC\)](#) has produced a range of videos by sector on spotting the signs of modern slavery.

[Coronavirus – Risk Assessment](#)

[Online Safety Zoom Pdf](#)

[Our-Covid-19-Response ParentsCarers](#)

[Our-Covid-19-Response Tutors](#)

Your Apollo Portal

Our Tutor Apollo Portal continues to be helpful. It's now the 'gateway' to all our recruitment work. Tutors that have completed their recruitment checks with LA can log into their portal to access the dashboard below.

All LA policies, including our [Safeguarding Policy](#), can be found in the Policies and Procedures section. <https://apollo.learningacademies.co.uk/> A copy of our Safeguarding Policy can also be found on our website.

You are also able to update your contact details (including your emergency contact and any relevant medical information).

The section highlighted below under 'Induction, CPD and Shop' includes a full induction to the background of our company, the way we work and, amongst other key information, our approach to safeguarding. All tutors must ensure they are familiar with this.

The screenshot shows the Apollo Portal dashboard for a tutor. The dashboard is titled "Dashboard" and "My Details". It features a grid of tiles for various functions: Notifications, My Profile Details, My CV / Application Form, Further Profile Details, My Contract, My Students, Registers, Resources, Pre and Post Session Checklists, Policies and Procedures, Safeguarding, Induction, CPD and Shop, and Contact Us. The "Induction, CPD and Shop" tile is highlighted with a yellow circle. The "Policies and Procedures" tile is also highlighted with a yellow circle. The bottom of the dashboard has sections for "ABOUT", "FOLLOW US ON", and "CONTACTS".

In particular we draw your attention to the following policies;

- Safeguarding
- Behaviour and Organisation
- Fire Safety
- Fire Evacuation Procedure and our

Health and Safety Policy.

Government Guidance: Keeping Children Safe in Education Part 1. Part One (Summary) of this key document can be found [HERE](#). This is shared with all tutors upon recruitment and updated via these updates as required.

Please note, that our [Safer Recruitment Policy](#) has been updated to include the new core legislation and guidance as part of 'Keeping Children Safe in School' which was reissued by the Government in September 2020 and updated in January 2021 (Post Brexit). [Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2020](#). The DfE revised version of [KCSIE 2020](#) has changes strictly limited to those related to the UK leaving the EU. From 01 January 2021 the TRA Teacher Services system no longer maintained a list of those teachers who have been sanctioned in EEA member states. This means that, for Learning Academies, all candidates from overseas **must** undergo the same checks as all other staff in schools, including obtaining an enhanced DBS certificate with barred list information. This still applies even if the candidate has never been to the UK.



Supporting Our Online Learning

We have recently introduced 3 new guidance documents to support our online tutoring work, ensuring we all work in a safe and organised way. These outline our expectations for online learning, specifically for tutors, students and parents. Copies of these can be found on our website.

[Tutors' Online Protocols](#)

[Students' Online Protocols](#)

[Parents/Guardians Online Learning Guidance](#)

SAFE CIC Update:

Legislation & Bills

Statutory and Good Practice Guidance

As mentioned above, two updated Education guidance publications have been published and came into effect from September 1 2021.

[Statutory Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021](#).

[Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges 2021](#).

[Keeping Children safe in education 2021 Annex G](#) provides a table of substantive changes from [September 2021 page 161](#) and they are also outlined in [SAFEcic's Briefing Paper](#)

2. [Disclosure and Barring Service: guidance for children's social care providers and managers updated July 6 2021](#) has been published for children's social care providers and managers.

This guidance describes what DBS checks are needed and how Ofsted will check and evaluate the use of the DBS checks and certificates on inspection.

DBS certificates provide certain information about a person's criminal record history at a point in time, subject to filtering, and may contain information about their suitability to work with children. Information in certificates must always be considered alongside other relevant information to determine a person's suitability to work with children. At Learning Academies, all tutors must have a current, Enhanced DBS Certificate.

Other Links

In addition, Ofsted have published an new article [Research commentary: teaching about sex, sexual orientation and gender reassignment - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

From Essex County Council

Children and Families Video

[Welcome to the Children and Families Hub - YouTube](#)

[Request for Support guidance for professionals - YouTube](#)

[The Windscreen of Need - Essex Children and Families Hub - YouTube](#)

Local Authority Designated Officer poster

This poster has been produced by the Children Safeguarding Team – it has contact details for the LADO, should a setting need to report a concern about a member of the workforce



Essex LADO
Information Poster - A

Removing an online nude image

The NSPCC's Childline service has launched the [Remove a nude image shared online](#) tool with the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF). The tool will enable young people under the age of 18 to report a nude image or video of themselves that's appeared online. The IWF will then review these reports and work to remove any content which breaks the law – further information is available [here](#)

Family Justice Young People Board (FJYPB) – 'Mind Your Language'

The FJYPB has produced a document to encourage professionals to use more appropriate language when talking and writing about young people.



Family-Justice-Young
-Peoples-Board-Mind

Youth Endowment Fund Toolkit

The Essex Violence and Vulnerability team recently shared information about the YEF [Toolkit](#). The Toolkit summarises the best available research evidence, about different approaches to preventing serious youth violence. It is based on real life data about what has happened when these approaches have been used before. It provides insight on 13 different approaches, with more to be added in the future. For each approach it explains what it is, how effective it is likely to be, how confident you can be in the evidence of its impact, as well as indicative costs and links to related resources and programmes.

The Toolkit has been developed to help police forces, local authorities, youth charities, school leaders and others use evidence when making decisions about how best to keep children safe from violence. This could be when commissioning or funding new services or creating new programmes of work.

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs)

If you want to know how Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPR) work, take a look at this [explainer video](#) from the ESCB, which provides a tour of the review process. It's only a couple of minutes long and there is an accompanying [PowerPoint](#) with more detail.

Children and Families Hub Newsletter

The Children and Families Hub produces a regular newsletter with important information and updates – you can [subscribe here](#).

Let's Talk Guidance and other helpful resources

Essex Education, Health and Social Care Service Partners have collaborated to create a suite of resources. These are called 'Let's Talk Social, Emotional and Mental Health'. They provide an introduction to a range of themes that may impact a child or young person's emotional wellbeing and mental health.

You can find these resources and documents on the new Infolink pages:

[Social, Emotional and Mental Health Portal for Schools, Colleges and Settings - Essex Guidance and Let's Talk Resources](#)

We would like to specifically draw your attention to some new helpful documents and resources:

- [Let's Talk: Best Practice for Supporting Engagement](#)
- [Let's Talk Emotional Wellbeing posters for schools](#)
- Let's Talk: A common language and understanding of Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health
 - [Guidance for Practitioners](#)
 - [Guidance for Families](#)
 - [Poster](#)
 - [Flyer](#)

EWMHS Instagram Account (KS3 – KS5)

The Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service (EWMHS) provides advice and support to children, young people and families who are in need of support with their emotional wellbeing or mental health difficulties. Their [Instagram account](#) is designed to help support young people through creating content alongside young people. The aim is to raise awareness of a wide range of wellbeing challenges and empower young people to take more control of their own mental health.

**Any Concerns re. Safeguarding?
You can always speak to our DSLs.**

Learning Academies Designated Safeguarding Leads

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are trained to at least a Level 3.

Our current DSL's are Sacha Brakenbury and Matthew Brakenbury.

Sacha can be contacted on 0845 463 1342 or by email at sacha@learningacademies.co.uk.

Matthew can be reached on 01206 252152 or by email at matthew@learningacademies.co.uk.

Other Useful Links

Keeping Children safe online

www.thinkuknow.co.uk www.disrespectnobody.co.uk www.saferinternet.org.uk
www.internetmatters.org www.childnet.com/cyberbullying-guidance <https://www.educateagainsthate.com/>
www.pshe-association.org.uk www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-use-of-social-media-for-online-radicalisation

General Safeguarding Advice

[Government Guidance: What To Do If You Are Worried About A Child Being Abused](#)

[Government Guidance: Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)

[Government Guidance: Keeping Children Safe in Education PART ONE ONLY](#)
[Working Together to Safeguard Children](#)

In addition, should you ever find yourself in a position whereby you need to contact your local council if you think a child or young person is at risk or is being abused or neglected then you can use the Government's Postcode Tool below;

[Government Postcode Tool: Reporting Child Abuse to Your Local Council](#)

Harmful online challenges and online hoaxes (DfE, 2021)

In collaboration with partners in the UK Council for Internet Safety's Education subgroup and the Samaritans, the DfE has provided [new guidance](#) and advice for schools and colleges, that will support their approach to tackling harmful online challenges and online hoaxes, whilst keeping children safe online.

ENDS