

Safeguarding In Schools

with Specialist Safeguarding Consultant, **Andrew Hall**



Safeguarding Briefing - 3rd March 2025

Safeguarding & Mental Health Curriculum Training Sessions - Kidsafe

KidSafe UK provides schools from EYFS, Primary to Y6 with a child-friendly, preventative children's mental health and safeguarding programme that can be easily integrated with your current PSHE / RSE provision. They've been fulfilling this role for 25 years, developing a host of in-depth training resources to enable staff to deliver their safeguarding, and mental health curriculum to children. Over the next few months they'll be hosting several free 'Find Out More' sessions, which come with a Positive Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing workshop. The sessions are an hour long from 10:00 to 11:00.

The dates are as follows:

March: 18th, 24th & 25th

April: 28th & 30th

May: 7th, 14th & 21st

June: 4th, 9th, 11th & 25th

From 10 am - 11 am

If interested please email info@kidsafeuk.co.uk to book

Eating Disorder Support - Shout 8258

Shout 85258, is a free and confidential text messaging support line for people struggling to cope. The digital service, has issued new guidance on the issue of eating disorders. Eating disorders are recognised by the NHS as a 'mental health condition where you use the control of food to cope with feelings and other situations'. Recognising an eating disorder is the first step towards healing and regaining balance. There are various

types of eating disorders, including Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia, and Binge Eating Disorder. However, some individuals might not fit into these categories and instead experience Other Specified Feeding or Eating Disorders (OSFED) or ARFID (Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder), which is more common among individuals with autism. Understanding these different experiences helps us better support those going through these challenges. If interested in finding out more, please click on the link below:

<https://giveusashout.org/latest/how-to-support-a-young-person-with-an-eating-disorder/>

Identifying and Responding to Child Sexual Abuse in the Home - Research in Practice

When a child experiences harm it is not a given that someone will notice. It can even be unlikely that someone will speak up, and less likely that someone will act. This is particularly true if the harm occurs in the family. Too many children remain trapped in these scenarios, unheard, unseen and unprotected. In over a third of cases researched by the Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse, the perpetrator was already known as a risk factor. Many children have consequently been left unprotected via systems that did not function properly, missed warning signs and failing risk assessment procedures. A new report released by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel called 'I Wanted Them All to Notice' looks into the reactions of multi-agency safeguarding systems to child sexual abuse, if interested please follow the link below:

<https://www.researchinpractice.org.uk/children/news-views/2025/february/identifying-and-responding-to-child-sexual-abuse-in-the-family-environment>

Washing Pods and Capsules - Child Accident Prevention Trust

Young children are vulnerable to all sorts of dangers in the home. One of the most present issues can come in the form of every day cleaning products. Some like sink unclogger can look like fruit juice. The thick consistency and similarity to apple juice in colour make it particularly enticing. However, one threat stands out from all others in this regard. The washing pod. Many washing pods bear a striking similarity to over the counter confectionary. For children the mistake can be easy to make,

especially when washing pods may be kept in a lower location than other cleaning supplies. The Child Accident Prevention Trust has recently published a page that looks to offer guidance on this issue. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://capt.org.uk/washing-pods-and-capsules/>

Question of the Week

Why might a child not disclose that they are being harmed?

Key factors that may prevent disclosure:

1. Fear of consequences:

The guidance indicates that children may not disclose if:

- There are concerns that "doing so may put the child at increased risk of harm"
- There are risks from their carer(s) who "may harm the child, or react violently to anyone seeking to intervene"

1. Lack of recognition:

- Children may not understand that what is happening to them is abuse
- They may not recognize exploitation, particularly in cases of criminal or sexual exploitation

1. Complex relationships:

- Children may have complicated relationships with their abusers
- They may be fearful of getting someone in trouble
- There may be elements of control or coercion preventing disclosure

KCSIE (2024) stresses that professionals must maintain vigilance and professional curiosity even when a child hasn't made a direct disclosure, as signs of abuse might require investigation regardless of whether the child has spoken up about them.

KCSIE (2024) pages 19-20 of the provided guidance documents

Watching and Browsing Online - Internet Matters

According to Ofcom, 90% of children are watching online videos and browsing the internet regularly. Children may love to stream videos and look up information, it's a fun way to learn and relax after all but they must be guided. The e-space is filled with inappropriate content and dangerous material. It is important that parents and even teachers, are able to steer their pupils and youngsters, towards the right places when online.

Internet Matters has published a guide dedicated to supporting adults in setting digital boundaries for children, so that they can make smart choices and build healthy online habits. In the Internet Matters guide you'll find practical tips on managing content access, the use of safety controls, advice on setting boundaries and ways to educate children on how to stay secure online. If interested please follow the link below:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/by-activity/watching-and-browsing-online-a-parents-guide/>

Advanced Safeguarding for DSLs

"I just wanted to say that I thought today's training was absolutely fantastic. By a mile it was the most engaging training I have done."

The on-demand course is always available and is updated after each live session [Book Online](#)

Other available online courses include:

- Whole School Safeguarding Course for 2024/2025 (2 hours of content plus a break)

Online courses - Safeguarding.Pro

All our other courses are now available in [Safeguarding.Pro](#) These courses can be accessed for a full year.

Current courses include:

- Safeguarding Refresher
- An Introduction to Cybersecurity
- Safeguarding for Governance
- Safeguarding Induction for new staff

For further details, go to: <https://safeguarding.pro/>

Until next time, keep safe,

Andrew Hall
Specialist Safeguarding Consultant,
Director, Success In Schools Ltd.

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