Safeguarding Briefing

November 2026



Dear colleagues,

This month's edition is full of resources to support with teaching and dealing with sensitive issues, assured in the knowledge that you are following recommendations from expert, accredited organisations. We have separated resources into general, primary and secondary for easier scrolling! You will find resources on self-harm and suicide, online safety and sexual behaviour.

Knowledge is power: we have a wealth of rich CPD sessions coming up - but remember to sign up soon as places fill up quickly.

You'll also find important updates from Early Help, Sutton LSCP and the Police.

Updates from the Education Safeguarding Team

Self-Harm and Suicide Resources

Sarah Alderman, Senior Public Health Strategist, has helped us compile a list of **Self-Harm and Suicide training, lessons and resources.**

Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Resources.docx

One of the training providers on the list is All Kind - an organisation that delivers free training for organisations in South West London. Details about their offer can be found here: All Kind Suicide Prevention Training Booklet (CYMK) (3).pdf

A&E Attendance for Self-Harm/Low Mood

If a school sends a child/young person to hospital as a result of low mood/self harm, the school should also complete a referral to CFCS for triangulation purposes.

Many thanks, Gill Bush.

S175 Audit

All schools should have received an email from the LSCP with details for the S175 audit for 2026-2027. Thank you to those of you that have done this already. Completion date:

11th December 2026

The details of how to complete the audit for your setting are contained within the email sent by Sutton LSCP on 30 September 2026, subject: S.175 Safeguarding Audit 2026-27 - to be completed.

📧 Please let us know if you have any questions, or if you require the link to complete the audit for your setting, contact: suttonlscp@sutton.gov.uk

Safeguarding Guidance Links – November 2026

Andrew Hall (Safeguarding in Schools) has created a web page that lists all the relevant links on the government website. You might find it helpful to bookmark this page: https://safeguarding.info/guidance

Mediminder - Emergency Medicines

Free online platform to record your emegency medicines, with reminders before they expire.

MediMinder | Expiry and reorder reminders for emergency medical items

Mick Bradshaw, Outdoor Education Adviser

Events and Training

Primary DSL/DDSL Experienced Safeguarding Refresher (In-Person)

🌟 Our brand new training offer is available to book! 🌟

📅**WEDNESDAY 9th DECEMBER 2026 (9:30AM - 12:30PM)**
📍Creative Room, Cognus Ltd, Cantium House, SM6 0DS.

Feedback from Secondary colleagues who attended this course was overwhelmingly positive:

💬 *"The pace and content were great. This was invaluable CPD thank you. I would value this as an annual refresher course for experienced DSL/DDSLs."*

💬 *"It also provided a friendly and comfortable avenue to hear and share experiences from other staff."*

🔗 **BOOK HERE:** Event : COGNUS---Primary-DSLDDSL-Experienced-Safeguarding-refresher-Autumn-2026 - 36723

LADO Reflective Workshop for Primary School Headteachers in Sutton

This training is designed for those responsible for LADO referrals and completing LADO/disciplinary investigations.

The sessions aim to:

- Discuss serious case reviews and key learnings regarding partnership working and safeguarding in schools.
- Encourage reflection on working relationships with LADO.
- Address any other prominent issues you may be facing - it would be good to discuss smart devices in schools, parental complaints and the new LADO handbook. If you would like to discuss anything specific please let me know.

By the end of this course, participants will gain:

- Increased confidence in managing LADO referrals and investigations.
- A clear understanding of what constitutes a 'good' investigation.
- An opportunity to discuss challenges and difficulties when considering low-level concerns.
- A clear understanding of recording concerns.

📅 **19th November, from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM**

📍 **G5 Civic Centre.**

Please register for the session using the link below:

Primary Headteachers Reflection

DSL New to Role

Our November course is **now full**.

The next course with availability is **27th April** so please book early to avoid disappointment:

🔗 **BOOK HERE:** Event : COGNUS---DSL---New-To-Role-Spring-2027 - 36692

Secondary DSL Network Meetings (Virtual)

Next meeting: 18th November, 8am-9am

Please ensure at least one member of your safeguarding team attends.

Termly Locality and Education Meetings - Autumn Term Dates

November 18th: meet.google.com/pvb-nkza-mag

November 19th: meet.google.com/yrs-qjkt-kwy

Online Sexual Abuse Webinars - Marie Collins Foundation

Free webinars

Series 1: The New Reality of Online Harm is primarily **for professionals** who want to strengthen their understanding of emerging online harms and the evolving digital landscape.
Series 2: When You Don't Know What To Do Next is designed **for parents and carers**, while also providing valuable guidance for professionals supporting children and families.

🌐**Access Webinar Series**

London Safeguarding Children Partnership - Upcoming Free Training - November

Upcoming Training Sessions | London SCP

Training Dates 2026-27

For training delivered by the Education Safeguarding Team: Please go to: https://suttontraining.event-booking.org/ and select Cognus Safeguarding in the category section.

(Here you can sign up to the full day New to DSL training, DSL Refresher for Experienced DSLs, Governor Training Termly DSL Network Meetings, Sutton Group Supervision)

Guidance & Protocol Updates and Consultations

Martyn's Law - Information for Education Settings

How Martyn's Law will affect education settings - GOV.UK

Understanding and preventing serious violence in education

This information does not introduce new expectations. It provides an overview of existing government guidance to help you understand:

- statutory duties and the difference between mandatory requirements and non-statutory recommendations
- how to implement recommended strategies for preventing children's involvement in violence
- how to respond to harm
- how to work with safeguarding partners
- how to navigate common scenarios, including when to act immediately, when to refer, and when to seek advice from safeguarding partners

Understanding and preventing serious violence in education - GOV.UK

Updated Statutory guidance: Kinship carers (DfE)

The guidance now includes six National Kinship Standards for councils. One of them says the voice of kinship children and young people must be at the heart of decision making.

Main points for schools:

- From Autumn 2026, schools can record all children in kinship care, including informal arrangements, through the school census.
- The guidance says many of these children have experienced trauma. It says the disruption can affect attainment, attendance and behaviour.
- It names education settings among the first people to meet a child living with kinship carers. They are expected to understand the challenges and signpost carers to support.
- From September 2027, councils will have a duty to promote the educational achievement of children in kinship care. That includes children on special guardianship or child arrangements orders who were never in care.
- Some kinship arrangements are also private fostering, which carries a legal duty to notify the local authority. This applies when a child under 16, or 18 if disabled, lives for 28 days or more with someone who is not a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt or step-parent. Most kinship care, such as a grandparent raising a child, is not private fostering.

Do not assume a placement is safe because the child is with family. Kinship carers can face threats, coercion or domestic abuse from relatives or the child may live close to someone who presents a risk.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/kinship-care-guidance-for-local-authorities

Sutton LSCP Update on Information Sharing

Thank you to Sutton LSCP for summarising the key points from the new Information Sharing Duty. '**PRACTITIONER QUICK GUIDE: THE NEW INFORMATION SHARING DUTY (2026)' can be found here:**

Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Partnership - Information Sharing

Updates from Partners

Metropolitan Police - Update on Support for Schools

Please click on the letter below from the Metropolitan Police about important updates and a request to sign up to Met Engage, their online community messaging platform, which provides information about local issues, crime prevention advice, and updates from neighbourhood policing teams.

✉ **2026-09-17 - MPS Letter to Schools - FINAL.pdf**

Early Help Case Surgeries

The Early Help Coordinators offer case surgeries each week for professionals to discuss specific cases you may have before making a referral to the Sutton Early Support & Family Help .
The case surgeries are designed for professionals to triage any potential referrals from your service. It is an opportunity to discuss the concerns you have in regards to the family you are working with, this is to ensure that your referral will meet three criteria to be considered for Early Support.
On Thursdays we will be available for one to one virtual sessions from 8-9:30am, 12-1pm, and 4-5pm (15 min slots per case). If you have multiple cases please allow 15 minutes for each case discussion. If these times are not suitable for you please email us to explore and arrange a time more convenient for you.
When booking we will take the details of the family you are working with including date of birth and postcode. Please email earlyhelpservice@sutton.gov.uk to book in for the surgery sessions or if you would like to add anyone to our distribution list.

Early Support (formerly Targeted Early Help Service) - Referrals

We would like to clarify the procedure for making a referral. The process remains unchanged: please submit your referral by selecting **Early Support and Family Help** > **Early Support** > **Targeted Early Help** (current option), and choose 3 different headline criteria. As before, please outline your specific concerns against each selected criteria.

Please note that Early Support remains a consent-based service, so we strongly recommend obtaining parental consent prior to submitting a CFCS referral. In the rare instance where a family does not consent, please ensure that parents are informed of the details being shared.

Under **The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026**, you are required to share relevant information without requiring parental consent. However, provided it is safe to do so, we strongly advise notifying families about the information being submitted.

Julia Beard
Early Help Coordinator earlyhelpservice@sutton.gov.uk

DSL Group Consultation Space with CAMHS

I am a senior clinical nurse specialist and I work in Sutton CAMHS. Part of my role is to offer a dedicated once a term DSL group consultation space to support with mental health difficulties you may be experiencing within your school. We use the space as an opportunity to problem solve and share ideas.

*This next DSL consultation will be on the **30th of November at 8:30am**. If you would like to join the space, please email me on deborah.ayodele@swlstg.nhs.uk to be sent an invitation.*

Please note that due to my upcoming maternity leave, this will be the final DSL consultation I am offering until my return from leave. My team will be in contact regarding who will be covering the DSL consultation slots for next year during my leave.

Deborah Ayodele

Local Drug Information System (LDIS) Alert Form

We are excited to share our upgraded **LDIS (Local Drug Information System) Alert**, which has now been transformed into an interactive online form. You can access and submit alerts directly via this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1S_LP-AgzSrU_G7Cza2J_Qh9CciqB3thrs95GcW2-RQo/edit#responses

We would also like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of sharing any and all information and intelligence with us. Your contributions are key to helping us keep Sutton safe.

Upcoming EWS Parent Webinars - November

Understanding and Supporting Your Childs Sleep Primary Webinar poster, Education Wellbeing Service.pdf

Understanding and Supporting Teen Sleep Secondary Webinar poster, Education Wellbeing Service.pdf

Understand the Manosphere - Free Online Event for Parents/Carers

Essential guidance for parents on incel culture and online influence.
2 sessions (must attend both)
📅 10th and 23rd November 7pm-9pm
Please share the poster below with parents/carers:

🪧 Understanding the Manosphere Poster.png

Resources - General

Staff Guidance: Why CSA Education Isn't Suitable For Assemblies - FAO RSHE Leads/SLT

As schools prepare to include safeguarding education in the curriculum and wider work, you may find the below guidance from CEOP useful:

Why CSA education isn't suitable for assemblies

Resources to Support Following Incidents of Sexual Behaviour

Reflection can help pupils and staff feel supported and heard following an incident of sexual behaviour. For pupils, it can support understanding, accountability, and recovery. For staff, it provides an opportunity to process concerns, build confidence, and strengthen practice.

To support these conversations, we've created a range of reflective resources for pupils and staff:

- workbook for students who have caused harm
- reflective guide for students who have experienced harm
- staff reflection sheet

Manage problematic and harmful sexual behaviour incidents - Lucy Faithfull Foundation - resources can be found under 'Reflection' section.

Helping Children Stay Safe While Online Gaming - Advice for Parents

Ofcom has produced practical advice for parents through its **Parents Power Up** campaign using three steps:

- **Check** – Review your child's account details, age settings and who they can communicate with.
- **Chat** – Talk regularly about the games they enjoy, who they play with and anything that makes them uncomfortable.
- **Change** – Review parental controls, privacy settings and communication options as your child grows.

🪧 **Signpost parents to:** Parents Power Up! How you can help your child stay safe while gaming online

Resources - Primary

New: *4-11s Inclusion Toolboxes*

CEOP has launched new *Inclusion Toolboxes* designed to support education professionals in delivering CEOP Education lessons to children with mild to moderate SEND or learners who may benefit from differentiation.

Download the lesson resources and inclusion boxes below:

- Jessie & Friends (main resource aimed at ages 4-7)
- Play Like Share (main resource aimed at ages 8-10)
- Connect (main resource aimed at ages 9 to 11)

Online Safety for Under-5s

Internet Matters has a dedicated online safety resource for parents and carers of children aged **0–5**.

The guidance covers topics including:

- choosing age-appropriate apps, games and content;
- setting up parental controls;
- managing screen time and developing healthy habits;
- sharing photographs and information about young children;
- helping children begin to understand online safety.

🪧 **Signpost parents to: How to keep early years children safe online | Internet Matters**

Resources - Secondary

Teenage Steroid Abuse Resources - Secondary Schools

The Society for Endocrinology has published four free videos for secondary schools on its *You and Your Hormones* website. Developed by a team of UK doctors, the videos explain what anabolic steroids are and how they mimic testosterone. They also cover side effects and the risks of misuse. They are designed for PSHE lessons.

https://www.yourhormones.info/explore/resources/school-resources-on-anabolic-steroid-misuse/

New PSHE Association Resource - Exam Stress and Anxiety - KS4 and KS5/post-16

Lesson packs exploring how to manage the pressures related to exam stress and anxiety.

🌐LJMU: Managing Exam Pressures

Child Financial Exploitation - Fearless

This resource provides information about Child Financial Exploitation including a description of the term, how to recognise the signs and guidance on use of appropriate language when discussing the topic

Resources | Crimestoppers

COM Groups - Information for Parents

Following on from the information shared last month about COM groups, Safeline has a dedicated webpage for parents to support them to recognise the signs and seek support:

🌐Com Groups: A Parent's Guide to Online Safety

Question of the Month

What is kinship care?

Kinship Advice – Cognus

Sharing Good Practice

During our safeguarding reviews, the team saw some great practice:

Seaton House: Allergies lessons are now part of the RSHE curriculum to support all pupils to be allergy-aware.

Beddington Park Academy: Makaton widgets are displayed around the school and at the bottom of all Powerpoint slides. This supports inclusive communication for key safeguarding vocabulary e.g. 'inappropriate', 'appropriate.'

> *Great course. I came away feeling more confident in a number of areas, particularly regarding the recent changes. The training delivered by Lina and Steve was highly informative, engaging, and well presented. Their knowledge and clear delivery style helped to enhance my understanding.* - Feedback from Secondary Experienced DSL Refresher Training

Thank you!

Don't forget to reach out to the Education Safeguarding Team if you have any questions:

Education Safeguarding Team Contacts

📅 The next briefing will be: Wednesday 2nd December