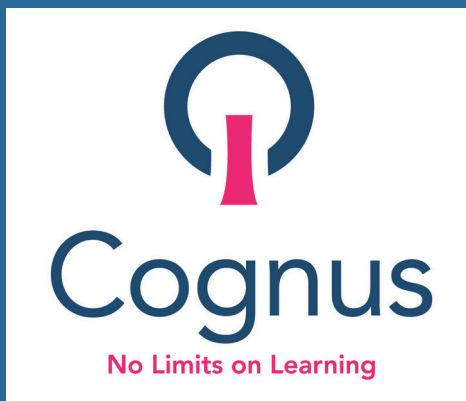




Safeguarding Briefing

October 2026



Dear colleagues,

We have a bumper edition this month, as is often the case after August. We hope you find the information useful and we look forward to seeing many of you at upcoming training and network meetings.



Updates from the Education Safeguarding Team



Allergy Safety In Schools

To support you with implementing [Allergy safety in schools statutory guidance](#), below are a list of resources and links we have recently come across that you may find useful:



[Free Allergy Training For Schools | City & Guilds Assured](#)



[Allergy training for breakfast clubs - Allergy School](#)



[Allergy safety policy – template](#)



[Individual Healthcare Plan template 4 July 2026.docx](#)



Templates & checklists: [Get compliant with Benedict's Law - Allergy School](#)



[Poster - Signs and Symptoms of an Allergic Reaction - September 2026.pdf](#)



Classroom posters: [Primary](#) [Secondary](#)



Kitt Medical is a company that provides pens, training, policies and a wall-mounted cabinet on subscription [Anaphylaxis Kits + Adrenaline Pens + CPD Training for UK Schools & Businesses](#)



Safeguarding Induction Checklist

Andrew Hall has produced a checklist to support schools to plan their safeguarding induction:
[Safeguarding Induction Programme September 2026.pdf](#)

KCSIE 2026 Poster

Andrew Hall has also created a poster summarising what all staff need to know:

[KCSIE+Key+Points+Poster+September+2026+.pdf](#)



Training and Curriculum Overview

These documents have been updated and are available on our [Commonly Asked Questions page](#):

[Safeguarding Training Recommendations 2026-27 - Copy.pdf](#)

[Safeguarding Curriculum Resources.xlsx](#)



Work Experience Students and Regulated Activity

Andrew Hall has answers to some common questions, available here:

▶ Andrew Hall video: Volunteers and DBS Checks:

https://www.safeguardingschools.co.uk/dsl_volunteers

Do work experience students need both checks? (9 mins into video)

Yes, where they meet the threshold. You can only check a student aged 16 or over. KCSIE says the setting should consider the enhanced check with barred list information. However, consider is not the same as choose. What you are considering is whether the threshold is met or not. If it is, do the check.

What about parent volunteers on a trip?

A single day trip does not meet the threshold on its own. What might meet it is everything else that parent does. If they also help out at a drama group or coach a team on two or three other days, the count may tip over the threshold.

The question on your volunteer application form needs to ask 'do you work or volunteer with children anywhere else, and how often? '

What about a governor doing a 'pupil voice' session?

This would not normally be a regulated activity, as it probably won't exceed the 3 days in 30 rule.

PAPYRUS in Administration

Sadly, the youth suicide prevention charity PAPYRUS has gone into administration and therefore Hopeline is no longer in service. Sarah Alderman from Public Health has shared a document with alternative helplines for young people:

[Suicide Prevention Support Services Available for Young People.docx](#)



Events and Training



Hold the Hope - Suicide Awareness Session

 19th October, 10am-12pm

For details about this session and how to book, please see their flyer: [Hold The Hope in Sutton Schools Flyer.pdf](#)

Online Hate Crime Awareness Sessions for Professionals in Sutton - FREE

Hate Crime Awareness webinars:

 **13th October, 12pm-1pm:** https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hate-crime-awareness-webinar-tickets-2001168496844?aff=oddtcreator&keep_tld=true

 **28th October 10am-11am:** [Hate Crime Awareness Webinar Tickets, Wednesday 28 October • 10 AM - 11 AM GMT | Eventbrite](#)



The session will explore what hate crime is, how it differs from discrimination and other forms of harmful behaviour, the impact it has on individuals and communities, and how professionals can recognise, respond to and support those affected. Participants will also learn practical strategies for challenging hate and discrimination, reporting incidents and fostering safer, more inclusive environments within their organisations and communities. Places are limited, and advance registration is required.

Note: The page is private and not publicised, as it's a free webinar for all Sutton professionals only. It's not searchable. Hence, anyone who has the link will be able to access and see the page, and book onto it.



London Safeguarding Children Partnership - Free Level 1 training for staff and volunteers

- A free [Level 1 Safeguarding Children Training Pack](#) has been developed by the Training Managers subgroup and Green Light.
- The package is intended for Designated Safeguarding Leads to use when training staff and volunteers.

London Safeguarding Children Partnership - Upcoming Free Training - October

[Information sharing guidance - safeguarding children Tickets, Tuesday 13 October • 10 AM - 12 PM GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)

[Historical and intergenerational traumas in global majority families Tickets, Wednesday 14 October • 10 AM - 11 AM GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)

[Professional curiosity - the CURIOUS framework Tickets, Monday 19 October • 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)

[Best practice in managing adolescent disclosures Tickets, Tuesday 20 October • 10 AM - 12 PM GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)

[Looking after self to safeguard children Tickets, Thursday 22 October • 2 PM - 4 PM GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)

[Upcoming Training Sessions | London SCP](#)



PREVENT

All Universal Offer online training sessions have moved to one place, and you can now sign up to sessions such as Incels and the Manosphere, and Online Platforms and Extremist Content here, as well as the regular DSL sessions.

[Regional CONTEST coordinators: virtual training sessions](#)

Whether you are a designated safeguarding lead, governor, early years practitioner, SEND professional, independent school staff member or further education provider, there are sessions tailored to your role. We also offer wider awareness sessions for all education staff, alongside specialist webinars covering topics such as incels and the manosphere, online platforms and extremist content, and gaming and extremism.

All sessions are free to attend, but places are limited, so we encourage you to register early.



RISE - SEND Reforms Training

Through the RISE contract, funded by the Department for Education, the Council for Disabled Children (CDC) conducted a SEND workforce survey, designed to understand workforce learning needs and identify key content for new training. CDC are organising a [programme of online national training sessions](#), from September 2026 to March 2027, based on feedback from this survey and topics will include:

- Navigating Health and SEND
- Understanding the SEND reforms: what are they and the impact on you
- Experts at Hand
- Coproducing in times of change
- SEND in the Early Years
- Understanding the social care offer for inclusion
- Inclusion Bases

Each training session is intended for a different audience. These training sessions will take place online on MS Teams, at a range of times.

For ease, you can find all the trainings and their registration links via the [CDC Events and Training Calendar](#).

Headteachers and DSLs New to Sutton - FREE training on Sutton-Specific Safeguarding Practices & Procedures (Virtual)

 17 **7th October, 10am-12pm**

The aim of this session is to familiarise DSLs who have **newly joined a Sutton School from out of Borough** in Sutton Safeguarding Practises and Procedures.

[07/10/2026 – COGNUS VIRTUAL – Substantive DSL's or HT's new to... – Cognus](#)

Governor Safeguarding Training (Virtual)

 17 **12th October, 6-8pm**

This training session is suitable for any Governor, new or experienced, Primary, Secondary and Independents.

The aim of this session is to ensure that Governors are fully up to date with their safeguarding knowledge, how to support and challenge their schools and be aware of the statutory safeguarding guidance for schools and colleges.

[Event : COGNUS-VIRTUAL---Governor-Safeguarding-Training-20262027 - 36719](#)

Your Light Matters CIC - Speaker on Suicide Prevention



I am the founder of Your Light Matters CIC, a suicide prevention and mental wellbeing organisation created following my own lived experience of PTSD, severe depression and surviving a suicide attempt. Before founding the CIC, I served on the frontline in both the NHS Ambulance Service and as a Police Officer, spending years responding to trauma, crisis and life-changing incidents. I am also a qualified Life Coach and Suicide First Aid trained, enabling me to combine professional knowledge with lived experience to deliver meaningful, evidence-informed talks. Following my own recovery, I made it my mission to help others realise that no matter how dark life feels, there is always hope. I deliver engaging and impactful sessions in schools, colleges and workplaces that encourage open conversations about mental health, build resilience, help people recognise the signs that someone may be struggling, and demonstrate how one conversation can genuinely save a life. My aim is to reduce stigma, inspire hope, and equip people with the confidence to seek help for themselves or support others before a crisis develops.

If you need anything at all or would like to know more about how I can support in schools, please contact me on:

Joe Jones

07581245768

connect@yourlightmatters.com

[Joe Jones](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

FREE DfE/NSPCC EYFS Online Training



The DfE now have a free online training program for safeguarding in the early years. The training is hosted by Virtual College and has been developed in collaboration with the NSPCC.

<https://eysafeguardingtraining.vc-enable.co.uk/Register>

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

! NEW Duty to Share Information

! The new guidance is **now a statutory duty**, not a recommendation. From **30th September 2026**, the Children Act 2004 section 16LA, inserted by the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026, says that information sharing is a legal duty.

✗ Replace references to the old guidance with this: [Information sharing to safeguard children and young people - GOV.UK](#)

Key changes to note:

- Where schools hold information relevant to safeguarding or promoting a child's welfare, and sharing it may help another agency covered by the duty to take action, they **must** share it. **There is no threshold that has to be met first.**
- **Consent:** You do **not** need consent from a family to share information as long as you have identified your lawful basis for sharing first. Explain to the family what will happen rather than ask for permission from them which you do not need.
- **Early help referrals:** Schools must share relevant information they hold, **even where the family does not agree, because consent is no longer needed.** Families still choose whether to take up any support offered.
- **Requests:** Responding to another agency's request is now part of the duty, not just good practice.

Prevent Updates

Notice, Check, Share - Updated

The refreshed **Notice, Check, Share (NCS)** guidance has now been published: [NOTICE CHECK SHARE - V2 FINAL.pdf](#)

Professionals should follow this guidance if they have a concern that someone is at risk of becoming radicalised into terrorism.

The [Prevent duty training](#) has also been updated to reflect the new guidance, and NCS will underpin further developments to renew the training package over the coming months.

The new guidance reflects recommendations from a Home Office review of Prevent thresholds, as well as wider findings from the Southport Inquiry.

The Prevent Duty: Safeguarding Learners Susceptible to Radicalisation - Updated Guidance Documents

[The Prevent duty: practical guidance for designated safeguarding leads - GOV.UK](#)

[Channel meetings: practical guidance for designated safeguarding leads - GOV.UK](#)

[Safeguarding learners susceptible to radicalisation: next-step checklists - GOV.UK](#)

Prevent Quiz for Staff - LGFL

LGFL has developed a free Prevent Quiz designed to help schools assess staff knowledge and identify areas for further development.

Featuring scenario-based questions, the quiz explores key aspects of Prevent practice, including recognising vulnerabilities to radicalisation, understanding potential harms, responding appropriately to concerns, and promoting British values within the school community.

 <https://prevent.lgfl.net/>

Martyn's Law - Protection of Premises - Resources for Education Settings to Support Implementation

To support education settings in preparing for Martyn's Law, the Department for Education have developed a suite of resources for the sector.

The resource pack includes:

- [Martyn's Law toolkit](#)
- [Martyn's Law Factsheet](#)
- [Martyn's Law Poster](#)
- [Protective security and preparedness flyer](#)

These materials sit alongside the latest Home Office and [ProtectUK resources](#), including guidance on [notification requirements](#) and the Home Office [statutory guidance](#). Together they provide information to help settings understand the legislation and prepare for implementation.

Further guidance for education settings from the Department for Education will be published in due course.



Updates from Partners



New Education lead in MACPT

Alex Ridge is the newly appointed Education Lead within the MACPT.

Under the Families First Partnership Programme, her role is to ensure that children and young people open to the MACPT have the best possible educational outcomes, working directly with schools, social care practitioners and wider services to ensure that educational progress is monitored and sustained. She is working within Cognus and as such she is part of a team with a range a range of expertise and resources to support the children on child protection plans.

Contact : Alex.ridge@cognus.org.uk Mobile 07432 663262



Early Help Referrals - Updated Process

In light of the reorganisation of Children's Social Care earlier this year, please see the letter below which outlines the updated process for submitting an Early Help referral: [Professional communication autumn 2026 .pdf](#)



LADO Service Review - Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete the attached [LADO Service Review](#) to help guide the LADO service and inform us of how we can improve the service moving forward.

Please download, complete and return to LADO@sutton.gov.uk by 23rd October 2026.

Please could you share the following advice with parents and staff: [E-bikes and e-scooters: Fire safety advice | London Fire Brigade](#)

[Sutton School Nursing Service Delivery Sept 2026.pdf](#)



Kooth Update - Now Soluna

Our Kooth mental health service has evolved to **Soluna** - please help us get the message out so young people know we're still here to support them. We've grouped our new resources by the actions needed:

1. Update your website, emails, and graphics

- **Swap out old links:** please use our new scannable QR code and Soluna logos to replace old Kooth graphics on your website, student portals, and staff intranets.
- **Use ready-made text:** copy and paste our short written summaries straight into your newsletters, emails, or website updates.
- **Check the logo guide:** use our quick Logo Guide to see how to use our logo or place it alongside yours.

2. Refresh your physical spaces

- **Order free print supplies:** request updated posters, flyers, and wallet cards - delivered free straight to your site.
- **Print your own materials:** download and print instant posters and flyers for noticeboards or classrooms.
- **Update waiting room displays:** download pre-formatted display screens for reception or support areas.

3. Inform your team and community

- **Brief your staff:** share our brief Guide to Soluna with teams who handle youth support or manage service listings so everyone is up-to-date.
- **Share with young people:** download our short overview video to show young people what Soluna looks like and how it works.
- **Post on social media:** download ready-to-share graphics designed for your social media channels to share the change.

Soluna Signposting Toolkit: [Canto](#)

Order print supplies & sign up for updates: [Form](#)

Speak Out Stay Safe helps schools place children at the heart of safeguarding practice and supports KCSIE 2026's expectation that safeguarding is taught as part of a preventative, whole-school approach. Not only that, but the programme links in with the new statutory RSHE guidance which became compulsory this September.

What we offer:

Full suite of resources for delivery by school staff:

- KS1 & KS2 virtual assemblies - This is a pre-recorded assembly film featuring Ant and Dec. The assemblies are flexible to suit your setting and can be delivered in key stage, phase or year group assemblies already timetabled, or in individual classrooms where appropriate. Just press play!
- **Classroom lesson plans**
- **Parent carer letters and information videos ahead of the assemblies.**
- **Supplementary lesson plans to use throughout the academic year**

How to sign up:

If you'd like to receive these free resources, simply add your assembly date to the form:

[Schools form](#) | [NSPCC Learning](#)

Alternatively reach out to your NSPCC schools contact Melody Taylor for further info: Melody.Taylor@nspcc.org.uk.

All resources are free of charge.



Resources

Allergy School - Lesson Plans & Resources inc. Posters

Use Allergy School's free educational resources to improve awareness and understanding of food allergies, so that all children and young people feel included and are able to participate fully in and out of the classroom. Begin with lessons plans, and then add in films, additional resources and assembly packs to teach children about the importance of food allergies in a fun and engaging way.



[Resources Archive - Allergy School](#)

🎓 **Staff training videos (3-5 mins long):** Brave Conversations aims to support educators in confidently discussing controversial issues with young people, such as those arising from global conflicts [Brave Conversations - Educate Against Hate](#)

🎓 **Tackling antisemitism in schools course - Free, accredited.** Its purpose is to help teachers and staff in schools, understand, and respond appropriately to antisemitism. It launches in November as a free, online, CPD-accredited course of about two hours with optional additional content.

Fill in an expression of interest form: [Registration 2026-27 Survey](#)

For staff - BBC Documentary on CSE and CCE of Girls

The BBC has aired a documentary on the sexual and criminal exploitation of teenage girls by organised drug gangs. Drawing on the experiences of 4 survivors along with insights from professionals, the documentary looks at how the girls were groomed, trafficked and exploited by drug gangs. It also explores the response of the police and other professionals to their abuse.



Watch the documentary: [Britain's forgotten girls](#)

Read the BBC news story: [Drug gangs exploited and raped us as teens, then police failed us, women tell BBC](#)

See also on NSPCC Learning

[> Protecting children from sexual exploitation](#)



New: Understanding and responding to online harm groups - Secondary Schools

CEOP has released new guidance and advice on the threat of online harm groups.

Online harm groups, often referred to as 'Com' groups (short for community), are networks of individuals who carry out high-harm offences online, including child sexual abuse. Both victims and those carrying out online harm group offences are predominantly under 18 year olds.

[Guidance for professionals](#) helping those who work with children and young people understand the threat and respond appropriately to safeguarding concerns.

! NOTE: The resource above is for professionals only and must not be shared with parents/carers or students.

[Advice to signpost parents and carers to](#), providing practical information to help families recognise the warning signs, support their child and access support.

[Guidance to support engagement with 11-18 year olds](#), helping young people recognise online pressure and manipulation, understand when something doesn't feel right, and know where to get help. This includes **a short animation to support young people's learning and aid understanding.**



New: Anna Freud Healthy Relationships Toolkit - Ages 11-13

This toolkit includes assembly materials, a two-part lesson and guidance for education staff. It supports students aged 11 to 13 to develop the skills and understanding they need to build healthy friendships and manage conflict in ways that support their mental wellbeing.

Students will explore key topics including building confidence in setting boundaries, managing peer pressure and navigating both face-to-face and online interactions. They will also learn how to identify and use constructive conflict resolution strategies, both offline and online.

[Healthy Relationships: A Toolkit For Secondary Schools | Anna Freud](#)



Question of the Month

A 16 year old pupil with mental health needs and who self harms is moving from Secondary School to College. What should the DSL do?

Click [here](#) for the answer



Sharing Good Practice

If you are part of a Multi-Academy Trust, consider booking a Trust-wide e-safety talk for parents like Cirrus Trust recently did. Steve Welding delivered a virtual session for parents from across Cirrus schools. Thank you to Britt Brooke for organising this.

“

I would like to express my gratitude for your support - the knowledge that you are a call or an email away for any queries or issues is always reassuring - and your wisdom when reviewing risk! - Feedback about Mick Bradshaw, Outdoor Education Adviser

”

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 4th November