

Safeguarding Update



1. Government - Working together to safeguard children

April 2015

This statutory guidance on inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, replaces 'Working together to safeguard children' (2013).

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/working-together-to-safeguard-children-revisions>

2. Government - Keeping children safe in education

This statutory guidance, which replaces the 2014 guidance, is for:

- headteachers, teachers and education staff
- governing bodies and proprietors

It applies to all schools and sets out what schools and colleges must do to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people under the age of 18.

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

3. Government - What to do if you're worried a child is being abused

This advice, which replaces the 2006 guidance, is for anyone who comes into contact with children and families while working in the:

- statutory sector (organisations set up, controlled and funded by the government)
- voluntary sector (not for profit organisations)
- independent sectors (organisations funded by the clients who use the service)

It explains:

- the signs of abuse and neglect to look out for
- the action to take if you think a child is being abused or neglected

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2>

4. Government - Safeguarding practitioners: information sharing advice

This advice is for front-line practitioners and senior managers providing services to: Children, young people, parents and carers

It helps practitioners and their managers decide when and how to share personal information legally and professionally. It might also be helpful for practitioners working with adults who are responsible for children who may be in need

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice>

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5. Government - Online Guide

The Home Office, in consultation with organisations including the NSPCC, has published a guide for professionals working with young people on preventing online abuse and bullying.

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/online-abuse-and-bullying-prevention-guide>

6. Government– Mental health

The Department of Health has published their proposals for promoting, protecting and improving children's and young people's mental health and well being. Themes include: promoting resilience, prevention and early intervention. This is the government's response to work done by the Children and Young People's Mental Health Taskforce.

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/improving-mental-health-services->

7. Publications– Mental Health

Public Health England has published guidance for head teachers and college principals on promoting children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing. It is based on 8 principles which include: enabling student voice to influence decisions; working with parents / carers; targeted support and appropriate referral.

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-children-and-young-peoples-emotional-health-and-wellbeing>

8. Reports - CSE in Gangs and Groups

“If it’s not better, it’s not the end” – Inquiry into CSE in Gangs and Groups: One year on (17/02/15). There are still many victims and children at risk of becoming victims of CSE who have not been identified by authorities, according to this report by the OCC. The report says that 92% of LSCBs have produced a strategy to address CSE and 79% of police forces have done a strategic analysis or problem profile of CSE victims and offenders. There has been improvement in compliance with statutory guidance on protecting children from CSE, with over half of LSCBs meeting 13 of the 15 key requirements in Working Together 2009.

However, the evidence is that, too often, progress at a strategic level has not yet filtered down to frontline practice. Many strategies are also relatively new - delivery mechanisms may take some time to become embedded.

Link: http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/press_release/content_566