

Keeping children safe in education May 2016 (will commence on 5 September 2016) – briefing note

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Key paragraphs: 13, 52, 58, 62-66 and Annex B

- **All** staff members should receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training which is regularly updated. In addition all staff members should receive safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins and staff meetings), as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.
- Governing bodies and proprietors **should** appoint an appropriate **senior member of staff**, from the school or college leadership team, to the role of designated safeguarding lead. The designated safeguarding lead should take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection. This should be explicit in the role-holder's job description.
- The DSL [...] their knowledge and skills should be updated, (for example via e-bulletins, meeting other designated safeguarding leads, or taking time to read and digest safeguarding developments), at regular intervals, but at least annually, to keep up with any developments relevant to their role.
- Governing bodies and proprietors **should ensure** that all staff members undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction. The training should be regularly updated. Induction and training should be in line with advice from the LSCB.
- Governing bodies and proprietors **should recognise** the expertise staff build by undertaking safeguarding training and managing safeguarding concerns on a daily basis. Opportunity should therefore be provided for staff to contribute to and shape safeguarding arrangements and child protection policy.
- DSL **should undertake** Prevent awareness training.
- Deputy DSL can be appointed but must be trained to DSL standard
- Managing of referral – refer to Annex B page 58

New checks

Key paragraphs: 99, 102, 112-114 and 129-134

- **Section 128 direction** (applies to academies, free schools and independent schools only)
 - requires you check whether a person is prohibited or restricted from taking part in the management of the school

- no definition of ‘management’
- check on NCTL Teacher Services’ system
- add a column to the Single Central Record
- EEA (European Economic Area) regulatory body checks
 - applies to staff who have lived or worked overseas
 - school **should** now check if any restrictions have been imposed by any
 - NCTL Teacher Services Link is the tool to use
 - add a column to the Single Central Record
- **Governor DBS checks** – paragraphs 129-134
 - maintained school governors – enhanced DBS required from September; no barred list check is required
 - academies, free schools and independent schools – unnecessarily complex – paragraphs 131-134

IT filtering and monitoring

Key paragraphs: 67, 69 and Annex C

- Governing bodies and proprietors **should** ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place.
- Avoid ‘over blocking’
- Annex C – Online safety

Peer on peer abuse

Key paragraphs: 42, 76 - 78, 69 and Annex C

- Peer on peer abuse is now specifically mentioned.
- Child Protection policy **should** include procedure to minimise peer on peer abuse and set out how they will be investigated.
- Sexting requires a mention in the policy now too – further advice from Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP) will be available soon.

Referrals to the Local Authority (LA)

Key paragraphs: 24

- Encourages schools to press children’s services if referrals are not having an impact!

‘If after a referral the child’s situation does not appear to be improving the designated safeguarding lead (or the person that made the referral) **should** press for re-consideration to ensure their concerns have been addressed and, most importantly, that the child’s situation improves.’