



Educational Safeguarding DSL newsletter

Academic year 2025/2026

Edition: 4

Date 03 December 2025



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Important Updates, Information and resources

Upcoming Changes to the Education Data System – Action Required

We wanted to let you know about important upcoming changes to the way Worcestershire County Council records and manages children's education data.

We are moving to a new system which will bring education data into the same platform used for Social Care, Early Help and SEND.

The new module is called the Early Years Education System (EYES). This change will create a more connected and efficient way to manage information across services, helping to provide a holistic view of each child and their family while maintaining a single, shared database across education and social care. This will improve accuracy, strengthen collaboration and enhance data security.

Set-up for school-age and post-16 education is already underway, with the system scheduled to go live in July 2026. Work for Early Years settings will begin in Summer 2026, ready for go live in July 2027.

To support this transition, we are asking schools to complete a few key actions.

- [Sign the EYES Data Sharing Agreement](#) - this allows us to set up and test connections now, ensuring everything is ready for the transfer of school data from September 2026.
- [Check and update your school's details in GIAS \(Get Information About Schools\)](#) – please make sure your information is accurate, so our admissions list reflects the correct details.

In addition, during Summer Term 2026, we will ask you to confirm your up-to-date school contacts in preparation for September. These will include your SENCO, Designated Safeguarding Lead, Designated Teacher for Looked After Children, Admissions Officer, Free School Meals Officer, Attendance Data Officer, and the staff member responsible for education notifications such as elective home education, part-time timetables, absences and permanent exclusions.

We will continue to keep you updated as work progresses and will provide further guidance to support you through this transition. Your cooperation is essential to ensuring that the system is fully set up and tested ahead of the go-live date.

If you have any questions, please contact chs.system.support@worcestershire.gov.uk

Children's services partnership update

The Families First reforms provide an opportunity to improve how we receive and respond to both referrals and information sharing from partners, families, and members of the community.

Following increased demand through our Children's Families Front Door since Covid-19, we have reviewed our processes in line with Working Together 2023, our Worcestershire levels of need guidance, and the Social Care reforms to ensure we identify safeguarding concerns quickly and connect families with the right support at the right time.

The [partnership document \(opens in new window\)](#) will provide details on:

- Worcestershire Families First Strategic Partnership
- Changes to the Children's Family Front Door from December 2025
- New Family Connect Team

- Early Help Family Support Team changes
- Children’s Services referral portals – changes / open cases

DSL Network Meetings – November 2025

For those DSL and Deputy DSL’s who were unable to attend the DSL Network meeting which took place on either 11 or 13 November, we are pleased to provide copies of presentations and information shared:

- [Agenda](#)
- [Quality Mark Initial Information session](#) delivered by Denise Hannibal
- [DSL Network presentation](#) delivered by Denise Hannibal
- [SEND Co-production](#) delivered by Amy Knight & Chanika Benain
- [FSW/DSL induction and supervision best practice](#) delivered by Nicola Smith from The Kingfisher School

DSL Network Meetings – March 2026

Cost: Free

| Date | Time | | CPD course code | CPD session code |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 18 March 2026 (**) | 3pm to 4.30pm | Bromsgrove (face to face) | 10438 | 91717 |
| 19 March 2026 | 3pm to 4.30pm | Worcester (face to face) | 10438 | 91718 |

- Visit CPD - <https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/LearnCPD/CoursesSearch.aspx>
- Login using your CPD leader login details, usually held with the office
- Search the CPD code 10438
- Confirmations are issued from cap-donotreply@worcestershire.gov.uk and may go into junk / spam folders
- Confirmations will include full venue details and any specific parking information
- Please note that ALL places must be booked to ensure venue health and Safety
- For support with booking contact the Training Team on 01905 844 420 / workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk

DSL / Deputy DSL’s - access to CPD

As DSL / Deputy DSL’s we fully appreciate that when it comes to booking Safeguarding training you do need the ability to book as and when required, without a delay waiting for someone else to undertake this for you.

As such we’d recommend that where there are several DSL / Deputy DSL’s within your school at least one has access to CPD for booking.

Children’s Social Care structure

The [Children’s Social Care structure \(opens in new window\)](#) provides details of the teams, specific staff names and then their teams role / remit.

Early Threat Identification Notice for Safeguarding Professionals

The National Crime Agency has partnered with National Police Chiefs' Council and Counter Terrorism Policing to issue an early threat identification notice to inform safeguarding professionals about harmful online groups, referred to as 'Com groups'.

The notice aims to develop understanding and raise awareness of the threat, as well as ensuring safeguarding professionals are prepared to respond effectively should they identify any indicators of a young person's involvement, interest or victimisation. Should this threat evolve, the NCA will issue further guidance.

Guidance can be accessed from the following link:

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publicationfiles/765-com-groups-early-threat-identification-notice/file>

Non-school alternative provision: voluntary national standards

Specific guidance about the use of alternative provision and education safeguarding responsibilities

[Non-school alternative provision: voluntary national standards](#)

WSCP Practitioner Briefing: It's Silent – Race, racism and safeguarding children

The It's Silent – Race, racism and safeguarding children briefing, developed following the National Panel's report published earlier this year. Is an important resource and highlights key learning for all professionals working with children and families.

WSCP encourage you to:

- Read through the briefing to deepen your understanding of the issues raised.
- Share it with your teams and colleagues to support reflective practice and discussion.
- Consider how the learning can be embedded into your day-to-day work.

[Click her to download the WSCP Practitioner Briefing: It's Silent – Race, racism and safeguarding children.](#)

WSCP – Learning Briefing

The WSCP latest Learning Briefing from the Core Group Practice Audit (completed in QAPP, August 2025) is now live.

You can view it here:

- Website: [Learning and Improvement Briefings – Worcestershire Safeguarding Boards](#) (Learning Briefing 34)
- Direct Sway link: [Click here to view](#)

Child Sexual Abuse - Resources and Free Training

The Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership has developed a comprehensive resource hub on [Child Sexual Abuse \(CSA\) \(opens in new window\)](#), designed to support professionals across health, education, social care, policing, and community services.

The page provides links to:

- Free e-learning videos and slide presentations – that can be viewed individually or presented in your setting
- The West Midlands Child Sexual Abuse Response Pathway – with detailed information about what to do if you are concerned for a child
- Key contacts if you are concerned about a child

The free videos from the Centre for Expertise are available online for **6-months only**, and cover the following topics:

- An introduction to intra-familial child sexual abuse – taking a multi-agency approach
- Spotting the signs and indicators of child sexual abuse
- Communicating with children about child sexual abuse
- Supporting parents/carers when their child has been sexually abused

[For further information explore the CSA webpage](#)

The Child Sexual Abuse Response Pathway

The Child Sexual Abuse Response Pathway highlights good practice when there are concerns that a child or young person is being or has been sexually abused. It aims to bring clarity to professionals' responsibilities and actions at key points to meet children's needs for safety and support and address their wider wellbeing.

View the [CSA response pathway here](#)

Cut It Out - Raising Awareness of and Tackling Domestic Abuse

Cut It Out training on raising awareness of professionals about domestic abuse and how to help.

We are offering this vital training FREE to all professionals working in any sector.

#Cut It Out recognises that certain professionals are in a position of privilege with their clients, not only working physically close to them but also very often, they are someone trusted to talk to or confide in. This initiative aims to help professionals recognise the signs of domestic abuse, whilst raising awareness of where they can signpost clients to get help and importantly give professionals the confidence to start that difficult conversation.

Delivered by Martin Lakeman, (Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Consultant), and funded by The Police and Crime Commissioner and Councillors from Worcestershire County Council, this training is to encourage those in positions of trust to be confident in having difficult, sensitive conversations, to be professionally curious and to be able to sign post clients/victims to specialist support agencies.

- 08 December 2025, 9.30am at Pershore Civic Centre
- 16 December 2025, 10am at The Guildhall Worcester
- 07 January 2026, 9.30am at Malvern Hills District Council
- 27 January 2026, 9.30am at Pershore Civic Centre
- 09 February 2026, 09.30am at Malvern Hills District Council

Bookings for #Cut It Out are being done via [EventBrite \(opens in new window\)](#)

Safeguarding Training

How to book

Bookings for any training offered via the Safeguarding SLA 25/26, and not otherwise indicated, need to be booked via CPD <https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/LearnCPD/CoursesSearch.aspx>.

Each School has a CPD Leader login, this must be used to make the bookings and will generally be held by the Head / Deputy Head or SLT, Office / Business or Finance Managers.

Confirmations are issued immediately and go to the delegate email provided at the point of booking, please ensure that you check junk / spam folders for the email.

Introduction to the Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

A specific 6-hour course for NEW Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) and Deputy DSL's to support them in their understand of the role and responsibilities.

Delegates on completion of this course would be expected to progress onto the Full day Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) training course.

Cost:

- Free to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA
- If schools have not purchased the Safeguarding Support SLA, then the price is £186 + VAT.

| Date | Time | | CPD course code | CPD session code |
|-----------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 14 January 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10590 | 91736 |
| 20 March 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Worcester | 10590 | 91737 |
| 19 May 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Worcester | 10590 | 91738 |
| 22 June 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Worcester | 10590 | 91739 |

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) training

Aims and objectives:

- For Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL), designed to **refresh and update** knowledge on the early help and child protection procedures.
- To understand DSL roles and responsibilities
- To understand how and when to make a referral to Family Front Door (FFD)
- To be confident when to share/not share and/or seek advice about information sharing.
- To be confident in undertaking an Early Help Assessment

Cost:

- Free to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA.
- If schools have not purchased the Safeguarding Support SLA then the price is £186+ VAT.

Spring Term 2026

| Date | Time | | CPD course code | CPD session code |
|------------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 09 January 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10591 | 91755 |
| 15 January 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10591 | 91756 |
| 19 January 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10591 | 91757 |
| 29 January 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10591 | 91758 |
| 10 February 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10591 | 91760 |
| 27 February 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Worcester | 10591 | 91761 |
| 06 March 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10591 | 91762 |
| 09 March 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Worcester | 10591 | 91763 |
| 23 March 2026 | 9am to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10591 | 91764 |

Summer 2026 term dates are available on CPD – search CPD code 10591

Early years and childcare designated safeguarding lead (DSL) training

This training is specifically for the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Deputy DSL or those who are looking to become the DSL / Deputy DSL in early years and childcare settings across Worcestershire. The training has been devised to support DSL's who are new to the role, experienced and extremely experienced.

Content is updated regularly and includes a detailed look at signs and symptoms, legislation, guidance and responsibilities, record keeping, making referrals, multi-agency working, child protection meetings, serious case reviews, and exploring barriers to good practice.

Cost: £50 + VAT

Cost: Free for schools who have the Safeguarding SLA for 24/25 academic year

- 09 and 16 January 2026, 9.30am to 12.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10052 / 91261
- 27 January and 03 February 2026, 7pm to 10pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10052 / 91262
- 25 February and 04 March 2026, 7pm to 10pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10052 / 91263
- 16 and 23 March 2026, 6.30pm to 9.30pm, virtual delivery, course code: 10052 / 91264

Managing Allegations

This course is aimed at those head teachers, chairs of governing bodies and other senior managers with responsibility for dealing with allegations of abuse against teachers and other staff, including supply teachers and volunteers.

The course will cover all aspects of Part 4 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2024/2025), including your duties as an employer, initial considerations when an allegation is received, providing support and managing the situation.

It will provide information which will help you to better understand the Management of Allegations processes, the role of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), and the role of the multi-agency network.

It will provide you details on the legislation, procedures and processes; ensure you know what to do if there is an allegation against a professional; and better understand your role as professionals working in regulated activity.

The course objectives include how to identify children and young people who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm and then take action with the aim of making sure they are kept safe.

Cost: This course is heavily subsidised to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA

- FREE for those who have the Safeguarding SLA
- £138 + VAT for those schools who have not purchased the Safeguarding SLA
- £33 + VAT for PVI Early Years Settings

| Date | Time | Delivery style | CPD course code | CPD session code |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 27 January 2026 | 9am to 12pm | Virtual Delivery | 10589 | 91706 |
| 12 March 2026 | 1pm to 4pm | Virtual Delivery | 10589 | 91707 |
| 15 May 2026 | 9am to 12pm | Virtual Delivery | 10589 | 91708 |
| 09 July 2026 | 9am to 12pm | Virtual Delivery | 10589 | 91709 |

Safer recruitment in educational settings

This course covers the following areas.

- Safer recruitment and the wider context of safeguarding
- Prevalence of abuse and profile of abusers and how abusers operate within organisations.
- Features of a safer recruitment process and planning a safer recruitment process
- Making the right decisions: interview and selection
- Setting acceptable standards of behaviour and maintaining an ongoing culture of vigilance

Audience: DSL / Deputy DSL's, Head or Deputy Teachers, any staff involved in recruitment process in schools or settings

Cost: This course is heavily subsidised to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA

- For schools with the Safeguarding SLA - £93 + VAT
- For schools WHO HAVE NOT purchased the Safeguarding SLA - £186 + VAT

| Date | Time | Delivery style | CPD course code | CPD session code |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 05 and 12 February 2026 | 9.30am to 12.30pm | virtual delivery | 10132 | 91723 |
| 23 and 30 April 2026 | 9.30am to 12.30pm | virtual delivery | 10132 | 91724 |
| 11 and 18 June 2026 | 9.30am to 12.30pm | virtual delivery | 10132 | 91725 |

Safeguarding Children in Education – Governors Roles & responsibilities

This course will:

- inform governors about recent legislative national and local developments in child protection.
- clarify the roles and responsibilities of governors in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in their schools.
- provide a basic awareness of child abuse and the effect it can have on children.

Cost: This course is heavily subsidised to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA

- £63 + VAT for those who have the Safeguarding SLA
- £138 + VAT for those schools who have not purchased the Safeguarding SLA

| Date | Time | Delivery style | CPD course code | CPD session code |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 22 January 2026 | 6.30pm to 8.30pm | virtual delivery | 10123 | 91727 |

Understanding the Single Central Record requirements

A two-hour course delivered virtually that will look at what is a Single Central Record (SCR), why we need a SCR, who is responsible for the SCR and what are the statutory requirements from Ofsted.

Audience: Anyone reviewing or managing the Single Central Record (SCR) for example Business / Finance Manager, Safeguarding Governor, Head or Deputy Head, administrative staff.

Cost: This course is heavily subsidised to schools who have purchased the Education Safeguarding Support SLA

- For schools with the Safeguarding SLA - £53 + VAT
- For schools WHO HAVE NOT purchased the Safeguarding SLA - £105+ VAT

Safeguarding Governors will need to have places booked via CPD by their Clerk, or whoever within the school has responsibility for booking governor training.

| Date | Time | Delivery style | CPD course code | CPD session code |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 04 March 2026 | 9.30am to 11.30am | virtual delivery | 10174 | 91712 |
| 06 May 2026 | 1.30pm to 3.30pm | virtual delivery | 10174 | 91712 |
| 01 July 2026 | 9.30am to 11.30am | virtual delivery | 10174 | 91714 |

Multi-agency training

The following course are offered via the WCC Learning & Development team, as such please follow the instructions below to book:

To book : [External agencies - WCC | L&D Booking system](#)

Instructions for completing:

- Do you have an account – No thanks
- Course price – as the course is free click in public circle
- Select organisation from dropdown box – Public
- Put in your address
- Then click book course

If you notice in the top right-hand corner, your name, then please log out. This should then allow you to make the booking.

If you require support with booking, please contact WCC Learning & Development team directly on 01905 844 544 or email LAdmin@worcestershires.gov.uk

GET SAFE training

Safeguarding Children, young people and vulnerable adults is everybody's responsibility. This raising awareness of exploitation & vulnerability course aims to raise your awareness of: Vulnerability, adverse childhood experiences, organised crime groups/gangs; Modern day slavery, consent for sexual activity; Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), criminal exploitation; Appropriate language and use of; National referral mechanism; GDPR/disclosure and Pathways/ diversionary/sharing of intelligence.

Cost: Free to all schools, DSL and DDSLs to attend

Reducing Parental Conflict

Harmony at Home is Worcestershire's approach to the Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC) initiative in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and organisations from our multi-agency Reference group.

- Cost: free to all Schools / DSL and DDSL's

Providing Early Help in Worcestershire Workshops

This session will cover the four areas:

- What is Early Help?
- How to creatively gather the child's voice
- Completing an Early Help Assessment
- Holding a Team Around the Family meeting

Externally provided Safeguarding Training

Sarah Wigley – Domestic Abuse training

This (recently updated) training has been running since February 2019 and has been commissioned by Worcestershire Country Council (Public Health) and is taking place online via zoom.

There are three modules of training, and the learning outcomes can be found on the attached flyer. This training is FREE.

The 3 modules of training are: -

- Module 1: Understanding and Responding to Domestic Abuse
- Module 2: Working with Domestic Abuse within the context of Multi Agency Working – promoting critically reflective practice
- Module 3: Understanding and Working with Perpetrators

The modules and dates available between September and December 2025 are on the [attached flyer](#).

To apply for a place please email: bookings@sarahwigleyassociates.co.uk

Purple Leaf and Pathfinder

Hannah Cooper, Early Intervention and Prevention Services Manager at West Midlands Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Centre (WMRSASC) has shared the updated Purple Leaf and Pathfinder Project training schedule for September – December 2025.

- [Purple Leaf Autumn 2025 Training Schedule](#)
- [SBCCAS Training course](#)
- [Sexual Abuse in the Family Context Training course](#)
- [Understanding and responding sexualised behaviour](#)

Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual abuse training

The Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual abuse specifically for West Midlands are offering a range of free webinars for DSLs during September to November 2025.

All webinars are delivered via MS Teams

For further information please download the [CSA training dates \(opens in new window\)](#) and links will take you through to MS Teams Events to book your space.

Useful websites

- Education Safeguarding: [Safeguarding support for teachers and education professionals | Worcestershire County Council](#)
- CPD [Courses Search \(worcestershires.gov.uk\)](#)
- KCSIE [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK](#)
- Home Office (Prevent) [The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Education Safeguarding team contacts

Denise Hannibal

- Education and Early Year Safeguarding Lead for Safeguarding Education
- Email: dhannibal@worcestershires.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01905 844436

Hayley Doyle

- Area Safeguarding Officer for Safeguarding Education
- Email: Hdoyle@worcestershires.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01905 845230

Operation Encompass contact

Gem Rainsford-Grady

- Operation Encompass Schools: opencompasssch@worcestershires.gov.uk
- Operation Encompass Early Years: opencompassseys@worcestershires.gov.uk
- Email: Ggrady@worcestershires.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01905 728530