

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Safeguarding training & learning opportunities available in Portsmouth

This document seeks to provide safeguarding training and learning information for DSLs in Portsmouth schools.

It is a place for recording formal and informal safeguarding training. Together with training certificates this can support and facilitate effective logging of all safeguarding learning in readiness for Ofsted.

Furthermore, this document can provide a place for bringing together actions from a range of learning opportunities into one place to ensure continuous improvement of safeguarding practice in your school.

For further information or to discuss your own and / or your schools safeguarding training needs please contact pscptraining@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead Training

“Governing bodies, proprietors and management committees should ensure an appropriate senior member of staff, from the school or college leadership team, is appointed to the role of designated safeguarding lead. The designated safeguarding lead should take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety). This should be explicit in the role holder’s job description. This person should have the appropriate status and authority within the school to carry out the duties of the post.

They should be given the time, funding, training, resources and support to provide advice and support to other staff on child welfare and child protection matters, to take part in strategy discussions and inter-agency meetings, and/or to support other staff to do so, and to contribute to the assessment of children” (KCSiE2020)

Training Expectations

The designated safeguarding lead (and any deputies) should undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. This training should be updated at least every two years. The designated safeguarding lead should undertake Prevent awareness training. KCSiE2020

In addition to the formal training, DSLs knowledge and skills should be refreshed (this might be via e-bulletins, meeting other designated safeguarding leads, or simply taking time to read and digest safeguarding developments) at regular intervals, as required, and at least annually, to allow them to understand and keep up with any developments relevant to their role. KCSiE2020

PSCP training opportunities for DSLs and their deputies:

The DSL role has two elements:

- 1. Child Level safeguarding** – identifying needs and making decisions for children’s welfare and safety. Knowing Portsmouth practices and processes, including effective knowledge of the Portsmouth Thresholds is essential for making child level decisions.
- 2. Safeguarding Leadership** – driving safeguarding practice and embedding a safeguarding culture in your school.

For those new to the DSL or deputy role it is advisable to undertake training which supports the ability to understand and act accordingly to child level safeguarding concerns, PSCP offer 2 training courses to support this:

- Early Help full day training
- Child Protection full day training

Once these courses are completed PSCP offers a range of Masterclasses for DSLs and their deputies to embed further good and effective safeguarding knowledge and skills. The Masterclasses cover a range of topics to support DSLs & DDSLs to drive safeguarding practice and embed a safeguarding culture in school.

For those DSLs who need to ‘refresh’ safeguarding training please select a range of Masterclasses according to your own identified strengths and development areas.

ALL MASTERLASSES FOR DSLs & DDSLs ARE FREE OF CHARGE FROM MAY 2021 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Masterclass: Safeguarding Children - The National & Local Picture for DSLs & Managers	This masterclass will continue half termly and will be delivered live . You can book your place https://pscptraining.portsmouthscp.org.uk/
Masterclass: Effective Safeguarding Conversations for DSLs	This masterclass will continue to be delivered live . You can book your place https://pscptraining.portsmouthscp.org.uk/
Masterclass delivered by the LADO	This masterclass will be delivered live and available in Autumn 2021 . You can book your place https://pscptraining.portsmouthscp.org.uk/
Masterclass: Exploitation – consider your Language Masterclass: Exploitation – CERAf – assessing exploitation risk	These masterclass’s will continue to be delivered live . You can book your place https://pscptraining.portsmouthscp.org.uk/
Masterclass: Contacting MASH - getting the right help for children and families For DSLs & Managers	From May 2021 this Masterclass will be a self-certificated recorded Masterclass available https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/5-training/
Masterclass: Decision Making - Portsmouth Thresholds for DSLs & Managers	From May 2021 this Masterclass will be a self-certificated recorded Masterclass available: https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/5-training/
Masterclass: Escalation & Re-think - having the right conversation with the right person at the right time for DSLs & Managers	From May 2021 this Masterclass will be a self-certificated recorded Masterclass available https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/5-training/
Masterclass: Portsmouth Compact - Developing effective safeguarding practice in your organisation for DSLs & Managers	From May 2021 this Masterclass will be a self-certificated recorded Masterclass available https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/5-training/

FURTHER INFORMATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Reading and engaging in different forums to develop safeguarding knowledge and skills:

NSPCC CASPAR weekly email bulletin - <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/newsletter/caspar>

NSPCC Learning Podcast - NSPCC podcast explores a variety of different child protection issues and invites contributors from the NSPCC and external organizations to talk about what they are doing to keep children and young people safe. Use the [episode directory](#) to browse through all episodes to date.

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (formally known as Serious Case Reviews)– NSPCC When a child dies, or is seriously harmed, as a result of abuse or neglect, a case review is conducted to identify ways that local professionals and organizations can improve the way they work together to safeguard children.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/case-reviews>

Using the learning from Case Reviews can enhance practice by reading, reflecting and putting into practice changes to develop safeguarding practice. This is also a good way to engage staff within school in learning and improving practice.

Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership (PSCP) <https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/>

PSCP website provides professionals with up to date information for safeguarding children in Portsmouth. This website offers a wealth of advice, guidance and information to support practice.

PSCP Twitter twitter.com/PortsmouthSCB

PSCP Twitter provides current information regarding safeguarding matters effecting children and their families as well as up to date information on training and other events.

4 key documents for safeguarding in school:

1) The Portsmouth Compact – <https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/toolkits/tools-for-audit-and-reviews/>

2) The Portsmouth Threshold document <https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/toolkits/>

3) Keeping Children Safe in Education <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

4) Ofsted - Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills settings September 2019
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-safeguarding-in-early-years-education-and-skills>

Portsmouth Compact

Section 175/157 Audits. In fulfilling this function the PSCP is required to ensure that schools, colleges and early years settings, with regard to their duty under either **Section 175** or **157** of the Education Act 2002, are meeting their statutory obligations regarding safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

PSCP undertake a biannual audit of all organizations working with children in Portsmouth and require completion of the Portsmouth Compact. It is expected that the Governing Body of an education setting is fully aware of the Portsmouth Compact self-assessment and any improvement planning that flows from that self-assessment.

How to book PSCP training:

All training to be booked on-line – pscbtraining.portsmouthscb.org.uk

PSCP Website - <https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/>

To discuss training needs for the whole school, specific staff and / or restorative practice please contact PSCP Training
pscptraining@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Key roles of the DSL (Annex B KCSiE20):

Manage referrals

- refer cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social care as required;
 - support staff who make referrals to local authority children's social care;
 - refer cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern as required;
 - support staff who make referrals to the Channel program
- refer cases where a person is dismissed or left due to risk/harm to a child to the Disclosure and Barring Service as required; and
- refer cases where a crime may have been committed to the Police as required.

Work with others

- act as a point of contact with the three safeguarding partners;
- liaise with the headteacher or principal to inform him or her of issues- especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations;
- as required, liaise with the "case manager" (as per Part four) and the designated officer(s) at the local authority for child protection concerns in cases which concern a staff member;
- liaise with staff (especially pastoral support staff, school nurses, IT Technicians, and SENCOs or the named person with oversight for SEN in a college) on matters of safety and safeguarding (including online and digital safety) and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies; and
- act as a source of support, advice and expertise for all staff.

Training

- understand the assessment process for providing early help and statutory
- intervention, including local criteria for action and local authority children's social
- care referral arrangements.
- have a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so;
- ensure each member of staff has access to, and understands, the school's or college's child protection policy and procedures, especially new and part time staff;
- are alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers;
- understand relevant data protection legislation and regulations, especially the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation.
- understand the importance of information sharing, both within the school and college, and with the three safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners.
- are able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals;
- understand and support the school or college with regards to the requirements of the Prevent duty and are able to provide advice and support to staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation;
- are able to understand the unique risks associated with online safety and be confident that they have the relevant knowledge and up to date capability required to keep children safe whilst they are online at school or college;
- can recognise the additional risks that children with SEN and disabilities (SEND) face online, for example, from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation and are confident they have the capability to support SEND children to stay safe online;
- obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses; and encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all staff, in any measures the school or college may put in place to protect them.

Raise Awareness

- ensure the school's or college's child protection policy is reviewed annually (as a minimum) and the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly, and work with governing bodies or proprietors regarding this;
- ensure the school's or college's child protection policies are known, understood and used appropriately;
- ensure the child protection policy is available publicly and parents are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made and the role of the school or college in this; and
- link with the safeguarding partner arrangements to make sure staff are aware of
- any training opportunities and the latest local policies on local safeguarding arrangements.

Child protection file

Where children leave the school or college the designated safeguarding lead should ensure their child protection file is transferred to the new school or college as soon as possible. This should be transferred separately from the main pupil file, ensuring secure transit, and confirmation of receipt should be obtained. Receiving schools and colleges should ensure key staff such as designated safeguarding leads and SENCOs or the named person with oversight for SEN in colleges, are aware as required. In addition to the child protection file, the designated safeguarding lead should also consider if it would be appropriate to share any information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving. For example, information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting victims of abuse and have that support in place for when the child arrives.

Availability

During term time the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) should always be available (during school or college hours) for staff in the school or college to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Whilst generally speaking the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) would be expected to be available in person, it is a matter for individual schools and colleges, working with the designated safeguarding lead, to define what "available" means and whether in exceptional circumstances availability via phone and or Skype or other such media is acceptable. It is a matter for individual schools and colleges and the designated safeguarding lead to arrange adequate and appropriate cover arrangements for any out of hours/out of term activities.