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SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION UPDATE

ISSUE: 6 **Tuesday 3rd January 2023**

Happy New Year! We hope that you enjoyed the festive period and feel refreshed and ready for the spring term. This term's Safeguarding and Child Protection Update contains lots of useful information on online safety and Prevent, and it also highlights some of the new sections included in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2022. We hope you will find it useful, and we would encourage you to read the update in full.

We would also like to take the opportunity to remind you of our Code of Conduct, which should be adhered to on all placements through Vision for Education, ABC Teachers and Smart Teachers. The Code of Conduct gives practical information on how to protect yourself and the pupils in your care whilst working in schools, for example:

- **general conduct**
- **no physical contact policy**
- **advice on mobile phone and social networking usage, and**
- **incidents and allegations procedure.**

Please take the time to reread the Code of Conduct before returning to work this term.

No contact policy

We operate a no contact policy, which should always be adhered to apart from in the following circumstances:

- In the event that a student is at risk of harming themselves.
- In the event that a student is at risk of harming others.
- Where you are providing personal care as part of your agreed job role. You should carry out the task with sensitivity and respect. Ensure another appropriate adult is in the vicinity and is aware of the task to be undertaken.
- Supply workers who are Team Teach trained (please provide your consultant with your proof of qualification if you have not already done so).
- Supply workers who are first aid trained and are in a situation where first aid is required (please provide your consultant with current proof of qualification if you have not already done so).

If physical contact is necessary, always be mindful that physical contact with a child, young person or vulnerable adult may be misinterpreted.

Usually, you should never be on your own with a child. If you cannot avoid this, make sure you keep the classroom door open and do not block any exits.

If working with students who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), ensure you have a comprehensive understanding of their needs, for example, sensory, health or their Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, especially in relation to physical contact.

Prevent training

The Government has updated its information and resources in relation to the Prevent Duty. The information includes important guidance on the following topics:

- staff responsibilities in relation to the Prevent Duty
- behaviours that might cause concern
- how to raise concerns, and
- how to report extremism.

It also includes links to **Prevent awareness training** and **resources for school staff**. Please send a copy of any certificates to your consultant to update your training record.

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022 Part 1 and Annex

The National Grid for Learning has translated KCSIE 2022 Part 1 and Annex A into 13 different languages.

All staff should read the document in English, however please visit the **National Grid for Learning website** if you feel you would benefit from also reading a translated version.

They have also produced a 'Read Aloud' version which may be helpful if there is no suitable translation available.

Domestic abuse

The Department for Education's **Keeping Children Safe in Education** guidance 2022 included a new paragraph on domestic abuse, which highlights that children can be victims of domestic abuse by seeing, hearing or experiencing the effects of abuse at home or suffering domestic abuse in their own intimate relationships.

Please use the links below for additional advice on identifying children who are affected by domestic abuse and how they can be helped:

- **NSPCC UK - Domestic abuse signs, symptoms and effects**
- **Refuge - What is domestic violence?**
- **Safe Young Lives - Young people and domestic abuse**
- **.Gov - Domestic abuse: specialist sources of support** (includes information for adult victims, young people facing abuse in their own relationships and parents experiencing child to parent violence/abuse)
- **Home : Operation Encompass** (includes information for schools on the impact of domestic abuse on children)

Stop It Now – Preventing harmful sexual behaviour in schools

Stop It Now provides a guide for professionals, parents and carers to help everyone do their part in keeping children safe. They also run a free confidential helpline and provide resources for those who work with children. You can find their resources on the **Stop It Now website**, and access their guidance on preventing harmful sexual behaviour in schools.

Spotting signs of child exploitation

The Children's Society continue their **#LookCloser campaign** and have produced resources to support you in spotting the signs of child exploitation.

Stop It Now!
UK & IRELAND
Helping prevent child sexual abuse

Online safety

Airdrop

You may already be familiar with the 'Airdrop' or 'Nearby Share' functions on Apple or Android phones. The **Ineqe.com** website has published an article about phone-to-phone file sharing in schools, including what the technology is and risks around the use of it.

Guidance for teachers giving online safety lessons

The government has produced a resource to support teachers in giving online safety lessons. The **'Teaching online safety in school'** guidance includes topics such as knowledge and behaviours, harms and risks, staying safe online and wellbeing. It's also useful for those working in schools who do not specifically teach online safety to understand how to best help students navigate the online world. Online safety is important as part of the wider safeguarding duty, and safe internet use should be encouraged and supported at all times.

Training

It's important to keep your training record with us up-to-date. If you have completed any recent safeguarding or child protection training via schools, in voluntary roles or with other agencies, please email copies of your certificates to your consultant.

The following free training course is also available:

Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidance (via EduCompli)

This course can be completed on a web browser or via the EduCompli app on your mobile phone. We would recommend this course if you have not undertaken a safeguarding course within the previous 12 months, but anyone who would like to refresh their knowledge can complete it. Please contact your consultant if you wish to complete this training. To enrol you on the training, your consultant will need to provide EduCompli with your name and email address – please see our **Privacy Policy** for more details on how we share your information.

If you have identified any additional training requirements during the previous term, please contact your consultant, who will endeavour to source a suitable resource to support your professional development.

Your data and privacy

Protecting your data is important to us. We have recently updated our **Privacy Policy**. Find out more about how we comply with legislation in the **Data protection and privacy section** on our website.

Please note that some of the resources detailed in this bulletin are from third party providers and are not part of The Edwin Group (Vision for Education/ABC Teachers/Smart Teachers/Edwin Education) and should be used at your own discretion.