

Safeguarding In Schools

with Specialist Safeguarding Consultant, **Andrew Hall**



Safeguarding Briefing - 8th September 2025

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Cheat Sheet - September 2025

The updated Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Cheat Sheet is now available, and will help you make sure that you have the core details covered. You can download it here: <https://6282.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Safeguarding+Policy+CHEAT+SHEET+September+2025+v.10.1.pdf>

[Safeguarding.Pro](https://safeguarding.pro) members can download an editable version of the cheat sheet as a Word docx in the DSL resources area here:

<https://safeguarding.pro>

“Sex is kind of broken now”: Children and Pornography *(Report by the Children’s Commissioner)*

In a new report, *“Sex is kind of broken now”: Children and Pornography*, published in August 2025, the Children’s Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, sets out how children and young people are increasingly exposed to online sexual content. The report shows that pornography is no longer mainly sought out but often encountered accidentally, sometimes before secondary school, with social media now a major source.

Surveying over 1,000 young people aged 16–21, the report found 70 per cent had seen pornography before turning 18, with more than a quarter first exposed by age 11. Many described seeing violent or coercive material, raising serious concerns about the impact on their understanding of sex, consent, and relationships.

You can read the full report here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/sex-is-kind-of-broken-now-children-and-pornography/>

Safeguarding Posters

I have updated a range of safeguarding posters, including:

- KCSIE Key Points
- Signs of Abuse and Neglect (for different age groups)
- Generic Safeguarding: Everybody, Everyday

You can download the posters here: <https://6282.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Posters+September+2025.zip>

(NB The zip file is large (approx 400MB))

NEW Safeguarding Handbook - September 2025 - shipping next week

I'm just putting the final touches to the latest version of the Safeguarding Handbook. As well as the usual updates, there are new sections about:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Cumulative Harm
- The Manosphere and Incel Culture
- A Seasonal Safeguarding Framework

Once I have the proofs back from the printers, I will aim to start sending copies out next week (w/c 15/09/2025).

Order here: <https://checkout.safeguardingschools.co.uk/safeguarding-handbook-2025>

Magnetic Safety (Child Accident Prevention Trust)

The Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) warns that more than 300 children a year are rushed to A&E after swallowing magnets and one in ten needs life-saving surgery.

When strong magnets stick together inside the body, they can rip through a child's gut, cutting off blood supply and causing life-threatening injuries. Even toddlers have needed hours of emergency surgery, and some children are left with lasting internal damage.

Magnets don't just come in toys – they're also found in jewellery kits, fridge magnets, puzzles, dartboards, fidget toys and desk gadgets. Worryingly, some magnets sold online are 17 times stronger than the UK safety limit.

Remind parents to:

- Buy only from trusted brands and retailers.
- Be cautious with cheap copies and online marketplaces.
- Keep magnets and products containing them out of children's reach.

Find out more and download a free safety poster at capt.org.uk/magnet-safety

Question of the Week

Question: Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. What's one action you can take this week to strengthen the culture of safeguarding in our setting?

Answer: Actions could include:

- **Being visible and approachable:** "I'll make a point of being more present during break and lunch duty."
 - **Using professional curiosity:** "This week I'll consciously follow up with a child whose attendance has dipped."
 - **Strengthening reporting culture:** "I'll double-check that I'm confident with how to log a concern on our system."
 - **Building safeguarding into everyday practice:** "I'll include a reminder in tutor time about where students can go if they feel unsafe."
 - **Supporting colleagues:** "I'll check in with a colleague who has recently dealt with a disclosure."
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Online Safety Calendar 2025 - 2026 (Childnet)

Childnet has published a really useful calendar offering practical ways of incorporating online safety into the school year. The **Online Safety Calendar 2025–2026** highlights key dates, campaigns, and ready-to-use resources so that online safety becomes part of everyday teaching rather than a one-off event.

- **September** – Start the year with parent cheat sheets on AI or group chats, and support Year 7 pupils with the *Moving On Up* resource.
- **November** – Celebrate World Kindness Day (13th) and take part in Anti-Bullying Week (10th–14th) with the theme *Power for Good*.

- **February** – Mark Safer Internet Day (10th February 2026) using free multilingual resources that make it easy to explore the online issues most relevant to your learners.

You can download the calendar here:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/online-safety-calendar/>

Advanced Safeguarding for DSLs Course

The first live DSL course for this academic year will be on **Tuesday 16th September 2025, 10am–4pm**. [Book online here](#)

The course is also available online on-demand. Other courses are available inside [Safeguarding.Pro](#).

Are you a busy DSL with no time?

Need a place to ask questions. find support and download resources

Click here and join Safeguarding.Pro today!