



Safeguarding Briefing - 22nd April 2024

Email Down! Sorry.

I'm sorry to say that we had problems with our email system last week. If you tried to contact us you would have received a 'bounced' email message. Similarly, if you tried to get hold of using the contact form on our website, although we received your message, we couldn't reply to you.

During the Easter holiday, we had to upgrade our email server and although we thought the changes had occurred flawlessly, once Monday came it was clear that something was up. All fixed though now I'm pleased to say.

If you are still waiting for a reply to a message you've sent us, please just send again and we can follow up anything that we've missed.

Supporting Adopted Children in Education - Headteacher Update

Adoption is a wonderful thing that can take children who've had a difficult start in life from hard beginnings to a flourishing future. Whilst this is a fantastic undertaking, the realities of being an adopted child within a childhood world where it is a rarity can be challenging. Much of the education undertaken towards family affairs, social interactions and indeed learning in general is undertaken with a view to the majority experience. This utilitarian approach is of course, largely necessary due to the volume of pupils it needs to be applied to. However, that doesn't mean that the challenges faced by children of adoptive families don't

need consideration. Headteacher Update have recently written an article addressing this very issue, if interested please follow the link below:

<https://www.headteacher-update.com/content/best-practice/vulnerable-pupils-supporting-adopted-children-in-school>

A Window Into Young Children and the Online Space - Ofcom

According to Ofcom's annual study of children's relationship with the media and online worlds, 24% of 5 to 7 year olds own a smartphone. If the definition of devices is widened to tablets, that figure rises to 76%. It goes without saying that as professionals in the educational space, we must remain with a finger on the pulse of trends among this very young grouping. Their formative experiences in the online world, may be crucial in determining their future attitudes. This is particularly importance since a third of those surveyed use social media unsupervised. Profiles on social media sites can be found for those in that age bracket, which due to the nature of social media may be cause for concern. If interested in Ofcom's findings please follow the link below:

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/news-centre/2024/a-window-into-young-childrens-online-worlds>

Staff Question of the Week

What is the definition of emotional abuse and what behaviours might be seen from a parents that would give you a cause for concern?

The definition can be found in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 (page 10):

Emotional abuse: the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child's emotional development.

It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate.

It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child's developmental capability as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning or preventing the child from participating in normal social interaction.

It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

Did Someone Forward this Safeguarding Briefing to You?

If you would like to receive your own copy of the Safeguarding Briefing, simply go to: www.safeguardingbriefing.co.uk

THIS WEDNESDAY Safeguarding Course for Governors - Free to access for Safeguarding.Pro members

The guidance documents for governors have been updated; other guidance has been updated or reviewed and so I thought it would be useful to offer a new seminar for governors.

I will be presenting a live seminar for governors on **Wednesday 24th April 2024 7pm - 8:30pm**. To register, please login into your Safeguarding.Pro account and share the link with your governors that you can find in this comment here: [NEW Safeguarding Course for Governors](#)

If you are not already a Safeguarding.Pro member, you can join here: joinsafeguarding.pro

QR Codes - National Cyber Security Centre

QR Codes, what are they? we've all seen them whether its at your local or on the bus stop you use to get to work. For most they're simply a faster way to share links with a vast number of people, without having to communicate every single person in turn. Or at least that was the original intention, increasingly they're being used in official communications and office affairs. But how safe is it to use them, after all it's an image with no text attached save from that which comes from the writer of the advertisement or administrative communique. The reality is anybody

could embed anything into any one of them. The National Cyber Security Centre has sought to address this question with a new post over on their site. If interested please click on the link below:

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/blog-post/qr-codes-whats-real-risk>

Book a consultancy Call with Andrew Hall

Sometimes issues arise in safeguarding leadership where a full day's consultancy, with the costs, time and travel involved is excessive, and a shorter conversation would be really helpful. (As you'll understand, I'm afraid it won't be possible to offer advice about individual cases.)

You can choose to book a 45-minute Zoom call or phone call here: bookaconsultancycall.co.uk

Online Safety Conference - Clifton College

This June, Clifton College will be conducting an in-person Online Safety Conference at the Redgrave Theatre in Clifton. We will also be providing tea/coffee and a free buffet lunch. There will be sessions from:

Felix Lester - Cybercrime Specialist from the Avon and Somerset Police

David Wright - CEO of the South West Grid for Learning

Favill McGill - YGAM

There will also be a presentation from children and young people about how they keep safe online and their experiences in the e-space. The event will take place on Friday 7th June 2024, between 09:00 and 13:00. It'll be hosted at the fantastic Redgrave Theatre on Percival Road in Clifton. If you require the postcode it's BS8 3LE. The conference is mainly aimed towards DSL's, social workers, youth workers, pastoral workers, family practitioners and educational professionals. Attendance is free. Conferences are always a great opportunity to get information from other people in the child protection sphere, and you're bound to come away learning something new.

To register for your space follow the link below:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/clifton-college/clifton-college-online-safety-conference-in-person/e-oqeyoa>

Prevent Activities - London Grid for Learning

The London Grid for Learning have continued their excellent work in the realm of education, by producing a series of resources aimed at aiding schools execute their prevent duty. These resources include a prevent quiz aimed at school staff to aid their understanding of the topic, scenario based activities for primary and secondary pupils and dedicated resources for those within the SEND sphere. They've also put together a Prevent in Practice interactive workshop. Their resources are well worth a look, so if interested please follow the link below:

<https://prevent.lgfl.net/>

Forthcoming Courses

Advanced Safeguarding for DSLs

This is a four-session course for DSLs over a full-day. The course is offered live and as a recorded replay. When the course is live, there are plenty of opportunities to contribute with observations, questions or answers. As a recording, the interactions from other people are included and feedback notes that this makes it feel like you are not on your own.

"I just wanted to say that I thought today's training was absolutely fantastic. By a mile it was the most engaging training I have done."

Next live online courses

Wednesday 17th April 2024 [Book here](#)

Tuesday 14th May 2024 [Book here](#)

The on-demand course is always available and is updated after each live session [Book Online](#)

Live and in-person

Monday 10th June 2024 LONDON [Book here](#)

At your school or venue

Remember that you can book Andrew to share his Advanced Safeguarding for DSLs' Course at your own school or organisation. The group size can be up to 25, and to spread the cost, the group can be made up of people from more than one school, so why not invite your neighbours! Email office@safeguardingschools.co.uk to enquire.

Conference Speaking

My conference keynote is centered around safeguarding, and also includes examples from my learning as a teacher, headteacher and consultant in a wide variety of schools and organisations. I aim to be inspiring, motivating and inspirational and feedback has been positive.

Just email office@safeguardingschools.co.uk with your ideas about how I can support your event.

Other available online courses include:

Whole School Safeguarding Course

Safeguarding Refresher

An Introduction to Cybersecurity

For further details, go to:

www.safeguardingschools.co.uk/availablecourses

Until next time, keep safe,

Andrew Hall

Specialist Safeguarding Consultant,

Director, Success In Schools Ltd.

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!