



EMBARK SAFEGUARDING SOUND BITES

Spring Term 1 2025

Welcome to the Spring Term 1 2025 edition of Embark Safeguarding Soundbites, which includes an update on local and national safeguarding matters. If any members of the Embark safeguarding family of schools would like to contribute any news items or updates for the next edition, please send to the Embark Safeguarding Lead, Helen Jefferson. All contributions are welcome! H.Jefferson@embarkfed.org.uk

Child Sexual Exploitation

Guidance on appropriate language for multi-agency professionals to use when talking about child exploitation and abuse. The guide sets out: the impact of victim blaming language; key considerations when speaking with people who have experienced exploitation and abuse; and terms that should be avoided. [Appropriate language guide](#)

Domestic Abuse

In 2023-24, Childline counsellors delivered over 1000 counselling sessions to children and young people whose main concern was domestic abuse. In this podcast episode, NSPCC Helpline and Childline practitioners discuss how domestic abuse affects children, how you can spot the signs and how to support children who are affected. [NSPCC DA Podcasts](#)

Social Media Checklists

To support the safe use of social media, our hub features resources, considerations, films and vital guidance, helping you to inform those around you on some of the most pressing issues. As young people continue to use their favourite social platforms, it's important they know about the settings that will keep them safe. Our Social Media Checklists are here to guide through the latest settings, and can be used by teachers, parents, and guardians to ensure everyone is up to date.

Safe use of social media hub: <https://swgfl.org.uk/topics/social-media/>

Social Media Checklists: <https://swgfl.org.uk/resources/checklists/>

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Resources from Anna Freud to support good mental wellbeing this winter

- [Winter wellbeing: toolkit of resources](#) This toolkit contains lesson plans and supporting activities to help pupils to look after their wellbeing, as well as to understand the importance of self-care and connections with others. The toolkit also includes a resource for staff on building good mental wellbeing, as well as information on seeking further support.
- [An introduction to self-harm prevention in schools and colleges](#) - FREE Webinar on 4th February
- Watch the free webinar on [prioritising staff mental wellbeing](#), and previous webinars



Online Safety

The latest stories and updates from the three partners in the UKSIC: Childnet International, the IWF (Internet Watch Foundation), and SWGfL (South West Grid for Learning).

- Safer Internet Day 2025 will take place on the 11th of February 2025. The theme is 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. [Register your support](#) and access [free resources](#) for use with 3-7, 7-11, 11-14 and 14-18 year olds.
- [IWF's new tech capability](#) will help prevent child sexual abuse images and videos from being uploaded or shared on the internet.
- [The Online Safety Act: A Positive Step with Room for Improvement](#)
- UK Safer Internet Centre Publishes [Sextortion Report](#)
- [AI child sexual abuse images and videos](#)

Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Childrens Partnership Key Documents

The updates to the following important documents are now published in the [DDSCP Documents Library](#), could all agencies please share widely within their organisations.

- [Derby City and Derbyshire Threshold Document](#) - Effective support for babies, children, young people and their families within Derby City and Derbyshire County
This document has been reviewed throughout and the Threshold contains 10 themed sections of indicators of possible needs to support practitioners.
- [Multi Agency Dispute Resolution and Escalation Protocol](#) and [Template](#)
This document has been reviewed throughout and strengthened to support practitioners when faced with professional disagreement and challenge.
- [Derby City and Derbyshire – Local Protocol for Assessment and Support](#)
This is a new document requiring publication under Working Together 2023

Briefing Sessions on the revised Threshold and Escalation will be rolled out from January through to March 2025 and will be hosted through the DDSCP Learning and Development Team. These will be available to book from January 2025 via the [DDSCP training booking system](#).

Best practice guides

Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (DDSCP) have produced three best practice guides to support practitioners when working with children and families where **child in need plans, personal health budgets or special guardianship orders** are a feature.

Practitioners including front line staff, team managers and senior managers from a variety of agencies across Derby and Derbyshire have helped to create these guides, along with input from families. The guides can be found via the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Procedures: Documents Library: 2.2 Local Best Practice Guidance.

They can be accessed here [Best Practice Guides](#)