

**Safeguarding Update COVID 19 September 2020**

1. **Introduction.**

We are in unprecedented times and COVID 19 continues to challenge us all and our families but we must take heart from the manner in which we have been able to continue to offer learning, advice and support to our young people through out the last 6 months. As ever, as we go forward we need to keep Safeguarding in our thoughts at all times and continue to support our learners to make real progress in a safe manner and support each other as restrictions change.

Colleagues should reacquaint themselves with the Safeguarding Update April 2020 (see attached), which covered the following very important areas:

* 1.0 Safeguarding principles
* 2.0 Importance of maintaining and recording contact
* 3.0 Peer on peer abuse
* 4.0 Mental Health
* 5.0 On line Safety including cyberbullying
* 6.0 Supporting parents and carers
* 7.0 Supporting each other

This Safeguarding update covers the following**:**

* DFE Briefing note on PREVENT
* Safeguarding & Prevent Policy update
* Essential annual CPD updates
* Reporting a concern

**2.0 DfE Briefing note on PREVENT**

DfE Briefing note on PREVENT (see attached): *How extremist are using COVID 19 to promote disinformation, misinformation, and conspiracy theories*. This Briefing note is attached and is **essential reading** for all staff. We cannot over emphasise how important it is that all staff are extra vigilant to radicalisation concerns, particularly as children and young people are being exposed to so much disinformation and fake news. This informative Briefing sets out the risks related to the impact of COVID 19, the extremist themes during the pandemic, the actions we need to take to protect our young people and information and useful links to resources to support us to do our jobs effectively.

Additional links for resources include:

<https://educateagainsthate.com/>

<https://www.et-foundation.co.uk/>

https://www.hopenothate.org.uk/

All Hampshire Achieves (HA) managers are asked to include this Briefing in their next Team meeting agendas where staff can discuss and share best practice in terms of minimising this threat to our young people.

Please note that all HA Team meeting should have Safeguarding as a standard agenda item.

**3.0 Safeguarding & Prevent Policy update**

DfE have updated their safeguarding guidance: *Keeping Children Safe in Education* as they tend to every Summer. We have now updated our Safeguarding & Prevent Policy and that is going through the approval process in HA and will be available to all staff in the coming fortnight.

Additionally, Wendy Scott will be sending all HA staff Part 1 of the DfE *Keeping Children Safe in Education* for all HA staff to read and sign*.*

**4.0 Essential annual CPD updates**

All HA staff are required to refresh their Safeguarding and PREVENT training every year. Wendy Scott will be sending links to all staff in the coming weeks, please watch out for that. Additionally staff in our Secure & Specialist settings have further training that they will need to complete relating to de-escalation and trauma based practice, you will hear more about this from Laura Hamson and Wendy Scott.

A number of colleagues have completed a free 3 hour on line programme called Psychological First Aid and have commented on how helpful this has been as its particularly focused on supporting young people to build/rebuild their resilience in this unpredictable time.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/psychological-first-aid-covid-19/1>

**5.0 Reporting a concern**

If in doubt, always report, the following page has our contact details.

**Dealing with Safeguarding concerns, quick guide for staff**

All those who come into contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults in their everyday work have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of these individuals. They should:

* be familiar with, and follow their organisation’s policy and procedures for safeguarding & Prevent
* know who to contact to express concerns about a child’s, young person’s or adult’s welfare, including safeguarding & Prevent concerns
* attend regular training that raises awareness of safeguarding and Prevent issues, and equips them with the skills and knowledge needed

If you become aware of concerns that a child, young person or vulnerable adult is being abused, or if you have any other safeguarding concerns, you must report it immediately to your Centre’s Designated Safeguarding Officer, ensure you tell the DSO the name and date of birth of the young person along with details of your concerns

**\*Designated Safeguarding Officers:**

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| Hampshire Achieves:  Apprenticeships  Traineeships and supported internships  Sub Contracted Provision  Hampshire Futures  Dee John, Head of Service [dee.john@hants.gov.uk](mailto:dee.john@hants.gov.uk)  07784 264713  Deputy Safeguarding Officer: Deborah Copeland 07926 077442  Deborah.copeland@hants.gov.uk | Hampshire Outdoors:  Duke of Edinburgh  Outdoor Education  Clare Dobbs, Head of Service.  [clare.dobbs@hants.gov.uk](mailto:clare.dobbs@hants.gov.uk)  Mobile: 07701 020336 |

If you are unable to contact a DSO and need to seek immediate advice please contact the Hampshire County Council Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) through the Children’s Professionals Line **01329 225379 or by email to**[**csprofessional@hants.gov.uk**](mailto:csprofessional@hants.gov.uk)

**Ensure you always inform the DSO in writing of any disclosure made direct to MASH.**

This helpline brings together professionals from a range of agencies into an integrated multi agency team providing triage and multi agency assessment of safeguarding concerns.

Additional Contact Telephone Numbers

During office hours 8.30am – 5pm

Children’s Services 0300 555 1384

Adult Services 0300 555 1386      Out of Hours Service 0300 555 1373

**If you believe a crime has been committed contact Hampshire Police 101 or, if the individual is in immediate danger call 999**