

Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
<p>Domestic abuse: multi-agency working Source: Ofsted Date published: 12 September</p> <p>Ofsted has published updated guidance for inspectors carrying out joint targeted area inspections (JTAs) of the multi-agency response to children living with domestic abuse in England. Upcoming JTAs will evaluate local areas' strategic arrangements for all children, with a specific focus on unborn babies and children aged 0 to 7-years-old. They will look at how children's welfare is promoted and protected through effective and timely responses to adult victims of domestic abuse – such as through maternity and adult mental health services.</p>	<p>Read the press release: Joint targeted area inspections to focus on domestic abuse</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Protecting children from domestic abuse</p>
<p>Domestic abuse: social work practice Source: Community Care Date published: 12 September 2024</p> <p>Community Care has published an article on domestic abuse and social work practice and training. The article discusses findings from a research project into domestic abuse and child protection. The researchers identified the need for: more robust data to inform effective practice responses and commissioning of services; further knowledge about the literature exploring the differences between types of abuse and consequent risks; and multi-agency working that utilises the expertise of family members and communities. The article considers social worker training on coercive and controlling behaviour in relation to the research findings.</p>	<p>Read the article: 'Social work, domestic abuse and coercive control: do we know what is going on and why?'</p> <p>Find out more about the research: Rethinking domestic abuse in child protection: responding differently</p>
<p>Age assessments Source: Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration Date published: 10 September 2024</p> <p>The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) has announced an inspection of the Home Office's use of age assessments. The inspection will examine the effectiveness of age assessments, focusing on the Illegal Migration Intake Unit, the Asylum Intake Unit and the National Age Assessment Board. A call for evidence has been launched to hear from individuals with experience or who have worked with individuals who have undergone a Home Office age assessment. The deadline to submit evidence has been extended to 9 October 2024.</p>	<p>Find out more: Call for evidence: an inspection into the Home Office's use of age assessments</p>
<p>Child trafficking Source: Guardian Date published: 12 September 2024</p> <p>The Guardian has published a news story about children being trafficked in the UK. Freedom of Information data shared with the Guardian found that 1,541 children were referred two or more times to the government's national referral mechanism (NRM), a support service for potential and confirmed victims of trafficking, from January 2023-July 2024. The news story includes comments from the Children's Commissioner for England</p>	<p>Read the news story: More than 1,500 child trafficking victims in UK feared back with exploiters</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Protecting children from trafficking and modern slavery</p>

<p>raising concerns around the risks facing children who have experienced trafficking.</p>	
<p>Online child sexual abuse prevention Source: Lucy Faithfull Foundation Date published: 12 September 2024</p> <p>The Lucy Faithfull Foundation has published a new paper on the use of warning messages and chatbots to help prevent online child sexual abuse. The paper evaluates the chatbot tool designed to confront and redirect people searching for child sexual abuse images online. Findings from the experiment carried out through an online adult pornography website show: the warning message and chatbot did have a deterrent effect and when the chatbot was turned off for a month, searches for child sexual abuse images increased. The Foundation is calling for technology companies to focus on earlier prevention, such as warning messages, wider education, and clear expectations of user behaviour.</p>	<p>Read the report: Introducing our chatbot - a pioneering tool in the fight against online child sexual abuse</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Protecting children from sexual abuse</p>
<p>Social media Source: BBC Date published: 17 September 2024</p> <p>The BBC has published a news story on Meta’s plans to put child users into new “teen accounts” on Instagram. The change means parents should have more control over their children’s activities and aims to help address youth safety issues online.</p>	<p>Read the news story: Instagram boosts privacy and parental control on teen accounts</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Online safety resources</p>
<p>Safeguarding children and young people online: managing cybertrauma and online risks and abuse</p> <p>This conference, organised by Healthcare Conferences UK, takes place on 05 November 2024 online.</p>	<p>Find out more: Healthcare Conferences UK</p>