

Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
<p>Staff and volunteer behaviour: low-level concerns Source: NSPCC Learning Date published: 07 May 2025</p> <p>NSPCC Learning has published a new webpage on responding to low-level concerns about staff or volunteers. The page covers the steps organisations should take when dealing with concerns about the behaviour of an adult in the organisation. It outlines what low-level concerns are, the importance of developing effective organisational policies and procedures, and how to report, record and review low-level concerns.</p>	<p>Visit the page: Responding to low-level concerns about staff or volunteers</p>
<p>Home education Source: NSPCC Date published: 08 May 2025</p> <p>The NSPCC has published a news story highlighting issues facing local authority home education teams in England. Findings from a Freedom of Information request sent out to local authorities show: elective home education officers in local authorities are responsible for an average of 388 children each; the number of families home educating their children has more than doubled over the past five years; and two thirds of local authorities saw an increase in the number of staff to match this demand. The NSPCC is calling for the government to provide local authorities with the funding needed to safeguard and support home educated children, particularly in light of the new duties and responsibilities due to be introduced through the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill. This includes the creation of a Children not in School Register.</p>	<p>Read the news story: Safeguarding reforms at risk as research highlights significant strain on home education staff of local authorities</p>
<p>Children and violence Source: Youth Endowment Fund Date published: 01 May 2025</p> <p>The Youth Endowment Fund has published new guidance to help prevent children's involvement in violence in England and Wales. The report discusses the prevalence of violence in education settings and sets out eight recommendations for education policymakers. Recommendations include: amend Pupil Premium (PP) guidance in England and Pupil Development Grant (PDG) guidance in Wales to explicitly encourage education settings to invest in evidence-based violence reduction; provide targeted funding over five years to deliver evidence-based violence reduction activities for children most at risk of involvement in violence; and amend Ofsted's proposed inspection toolkits to assess how settings support children suspended from school and safeguard children from violence.</p>	<p>Read the report: Education policy, children and violence</p>

<p>Social media Source: Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford Date published: 06 May 2025</p> <p>The Oxford Internet Institute at the University of Oxford has published a new study on social media use and child mental health in the UK. Researchers carried out an analysis of data from a survey of 3,340 adolescents. Findings indicate that young people with a diagnosable mental health condition reported differences in their experiences of social media compared to those without a condition. Adolescents in the study with internalising conditions such as anxiety and depression demonstrated: higher time spent on social media; increased social comparison; greater impact of social media feedback on mood; and lower satisfaction with the number of online friends.</p>	<p>Read the news story: Adolescents with mental health conditions use social media differently than their peers, study suggests</p> <p>Read the study: Social media use in adolescents with and without mental health conditions</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Podcast: Online safety - a young person's perspective</p>
<p>Maternal mental health Source: Research in Practice Date published: 05 May 2025</p> <p>Research in Practice has published three videos on maternal mental health and pre-birth work. The videos look at the needs, including mental health challenges, that parents involved in pre-birth work commonly present with; the importance of embedding trauma-informed approaches in pre-birth practice; and the impact of a policy change around separation at birth on families in one local area.</p>	<p>Watch the videos: Supporting maternal mental health in pre-birth work</p>
<p>Multi-agency working Source: DfE Date published: 08 May 2025</p> <p>The Department for Education (DfE) has added new materials to support 'Working together to safeguard children', the statutory guidance on multi-agency working in England. These include an illustrated guide, an animated video and a toolkit of resources designed for practitioners to share and use with children, young people and their families.</p>	<p>Access the materials: Working together to safeguard children</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Multi-agency working</p>
<p>Who's holding the baby? An infant mental health conference from PSS</p> <p>This conference, organised by Person Shaped Support (PSS), takes place on 12 June 2025 in Liverpool.</p>	<p>Find out more: PSS</p>