

## Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
<p><b>Financially motivated sexual extortion</b>  <b>Source:</b> NSPCC Learning  <b>Date published:</b> 05 August 2025</p> <p>NSPCC Learning has published a podcast episode discussing how to protect boys and young males from targeted online blackmail and extortion, featuring experts from Childline and CEOP Education, part of the National Crime Agency (NCA). The episode covers: what online financial sexual extortion is; how to spot the signs of online blackmail and extortion; how to support boys who are experiencing online sexual extortion; and how to report real and AI generated images.</p>	<p><b>Listen to the podcast:</b> <a href="#">Podcast: Protecting boys from financially motivated sexual extortion</a>  <b>Listen on YouTube:</b> <a href="#">Protecting boys from financially motivated sexual extortion</a></p>
<p><b>Domestic abuse and poverty</b>  <b>Source:</b> Community Care  <b>Date published:</b> 01 August 2025</p> <p>Community Care has published an article exploring links between poverty and domestic abuse in child protection. The article outlines findings from the Rethinking domestic abuse in child protection (RDAC) research project, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, which examined these links. Research was undertaken with three local authorities, two in England and one in Scotland. Findings include that children living in poverty were more likely to come into care and that domestic abuse was an important factor in this; yet, the system often failed to recognise and examine how inequalities shaped families' experiences and needs. The research also highlights the need to implement domestic abuse strategies that address poverty, engage with communities and place families' voices at the heart of developments.</p>	<p><b>Read the news story:</b> <a href="#">The overlooked link between poverty and domestic abuse in child protection: findings from research</a></p> <p><b>See also on NSPCC Learning</b>  &gt; <a href="#">Protecting children from domestic abuse</a></p>
<p><b>Domestic abuse outcome measures</b>  <b>Source:</b> Foundations  <b>Date published:</b> 30 July 2025</p> <p>Foundations has published findings from a project conducted by the University of Sussex exploring domestic abuse intervention and programme outcome measurement tools. The main aim of the project was to develop agreement on how to measure domestic abuse outcomes consistently. The research included the views of practitioners, service providers, and children and caregivers who experience domestic abuse. Key findings show that the Children and Families Against Domestic Abuse (CAFADA) Wellbeing and Safety Scale was selected as the preferred measurement tool to assess two core outcomes: family relationships and feelings of safety.</p>	<p><b>Read the news story:</b> <a href="#">Domestic abuse breakthrough as ways to measure impact of services on children identified</a>  <b>Read the report:</b> <a href="#">Selecting and validating outcome measures for the Domestic Violence and Abuse Core Outcome Set (DVA-COS)</a></p>
<p><b>Physical and verbal abuse</b>  <b>Source:</b> Guardian and BMJ Open  <b>Date published:</b> 05 August 2025</p> <p>The Guardian has published a news story discussing findings from a research study analysing the impact of childhood exposure to verbal and physical abuse published in BMJ Open. The study draws combined data</p>	<p><b>Read the news story:</b> <a href="#">Verbally abused children more likely to have poor mental health as adults, study finds</a>  <b>Read the study:</b> <a href="#">Comparative relationships between physical and verbal abuse of children, life course mental well-being and trends in exposure: a multi-</a></p>

<p>from seven general adult population surveys in England and Wales between 2012-2024. Key findings include: parents who ridicule, threaten or humiliate their children risk leaving them with a 64% higher chance of having poor mental health as an adult; and the prevalence of low mental wellbeing for those who had experienced no abuse stood at 16%, rising to 22.5% for those who had experienced physical abuse, 24% for verbal abuse, and 29% for both physical and verbal abuse.</p>	<p><u><a href="#">study secondary analysis of cross-sectional surveys in England and Wales</a></u></p>
<p><b>Online safety</b>  <b>Source:</b> Department for Science, Innovation and Technology  <b>Date published:</b> 01 August 2025</p> <p>The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology has published a press release outlining how the Online Safety Act aims to help keep children safe online. The press release sets out information on: data privacy; virtual private networks; legal adult content; and support for the Online Safety Act.</p>	<p><b>Read the press release:</b> <u><a href="#">Keeping children safe online: changes to the Online Safety Act explained</a></u></p> <p><b>See also on NSPCC Learning</b>  &gt; <u><a href="#">Online safety</a></u></p>
<p><b>Residential family assessment centres</b>  <b>Source:</b> Nuffield Family Justice Observatory  <b>Date published:</b> 29 July 2025</p> <p>The Nuffield Family Justice Observatory has published a briefing paper examining patterns around the increasing number of residential family assessment centres in England. Residential family assessment centres provide an environment where professionals can assess parents' ability to safeguard and care for their child – often a newborn baby. The briefing covers: what family assessment centres are; trends in provision; research on residential parenting support; and questions for stakeholders to consider.</p>	<p><b>Read the briefing:</b> <u><a href="#">Residential family assessment centres: Data trends and questions (PDF)</a></u></p>
<p><b>Contexts of contextual safeguarding - creating safety for adolescents beyond their homes across sectors and geographies</b></p> <p>This conference, organised by the Association of Child Protection Professionals takes place on 17 and 18 August in Durham.</p>	<p><b>Find out more:</b> <u><a href="#">Association of Child Protection Professionals</a></u></p>