

Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
Talk Relationships Source: NSPCC Learning Date published: 05 June 2026 NSPCC Learning has designed a new, free on-demand school leaders' webinar from the NSPCC's Talk Relationships service. The hour-long webinar covers: what a whole-school approach is; creating a culture of safety and respect in schools; and what's new in Talk Relationships. The Talk Relationships elearning course for teachers has also been updated. The training covers everything teachers need to confidently prepare and deliver sex and relationships education.	Find out more: Talk Relationships Access the training: Talk Relationships: delivering sex and relationships education training
Children's services Source: NSPCC Learning Date published: 10 June 2026 The NSPCC, Action for Children, Barnardo's, National Children's Bureau and The Children's Society have published the latest in a series of reports on children's services spending in England. Key findings show: £14.7 billion was spent on children's services in 2024/25; early intervention spending was more than 40% lower than it was 15 years ago; and the average cost of supporting a child in care is now more than £100,000 a year. Based on the findings in the report, recommendations are made for government to help improve the lives of babies, children, young people and their families.	Read the report: Children's services spending reports
Physical punishment Source: UCL Date published: 10 June 2026 University College London (UCL) has published research on the physical punishment of children in the UK. Funded by the Nuffield Foundation and supported by the NSPCC, the research used data from the Millennium Cohort Study following the lives of approximately 19,000 children who were born in the UK between 2000 and 2002. Key findings show: physical punishment is still common in the UK; physical punishment does not improve behavioural outcomes in early childhood; and adolescents who experienced physical punishment in early childhood were more likely to report behaviours such as bullying and physical aggression at ages 14 and 17. The researchers are calling for the removal of the legal defence of reasonable punishment in England and Northern Ireland and for the physical punishment of children to be banned by law.	Read the news story: Physical punishment of children is harmful and must be banned in England and Northern Ireland Download the report: Physical punishment and child outcomes in the UK (PDF) See also on NSPCC Learning > Why language matters: talking about 'equal protection from physical assault' rather than calling for a 'smacking ban'
Foster care Source: DfE Date published: 09 June 2026 The Department for Education (DfE) has published findings and the government's response to a series of consultations which sought views on improving the foster care system in England. The consultations asked for views on reforms to the foster care system, evidence of what works and best practice, as well as opinions on proposed changes to assessment and	Read the responses: Fostering for the future: improving the foster care system Fostering reform: proposed changes to assessment and handling allegations of abuse Fostering for the future: seeking the

the handling of allegations of abuse. The consultations also sought the views of children and young people with experience of living in foster care. Children and young people highlighted frequent changes in social workers, a lack of information around decisions, and feelings of not being included or listened to.	views of children and young people See also on NSPCC Learning > Children in care
Youth violence Source: YEF Date published: 08 June 2026 The Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) has created new national guidance to help protect children from involvement in violence across England and Wales. The guidance calls for a single safeguarding pathway, plan and owner accountable for keeping children safe. Aimed at senior leaders in children's services the guidance includes recommendations focused on: strengthening safeguarding responses to extra-familial harm; improving access to evidence-based interventions; and safeguarding children in care from violence.	Read the news story: YEF calls for one pathway, one plan and one owner to protect children at risk of serious violence
Online child abuse Source: International Policing and Public Protection Research Institute (IPPPRI) Date published: 09 June 2026 The International Policing and Public Protection Research Institute (IPPPRI), part of Anglia Ruskin University (ARU), has launched a new support tool to help victims of online child abuse have their images removed from the internet. Developed in partnership with the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) and Protect Children, the tool allows people who have reported a case to police and had it investigated, to self-refer to the ECHO Survivor Hub for support. The ECHO Survivor Hub Consortium will actively search for and remove survivors' imagery from circulation; prompt technology companies to proactively remove the imagery; increase awareness of compensation options and support legal representatives to explore civil remedy; and listen to the needs of survivors and offer access to materials to enhance wellbeing and healing.	Read the news story: New tool launched to help online abuse victims Access the hub: ECHO Support Hub
Domestic abuse and family courts Source: Ministry of Justice Date published: 10 June 2026 The government has published its response to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's report, 'Everyday business', exploring how the Family Court responds to domestic abuse within child arrangement proceedings in England and Wales. The report, based on a pilot study across three Family Court sites, made recommendations aimed at improving the experiences of victims and survivors, alongside better data collection and transparency within the family justice system. The government has responded to all 16 recommendations accepting or partially accepting most of them and announcing it will provide additional funding for a second phase of the Family Court Review and Reporting Mechanism (FCRRM). The government will not take forward the Commissioner's recommendation to incorporate financial remedy cases into the second part of the FCRRM and several measures to improve data gathering. The government response outlines	Read the response: Domestic Abuse Commissioner 'everyday business' report: government response Read the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's news story and report: Government responds to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's report on the Family Court See also on NSPCC Learning > Protecting children from domestic abuse

work currently being undertaken in this area and makes commitments to further action including a new Family Justice Strategy.	
Post-traumatic stress disorder Source: ACAMH Date published: 10 June 2026 The Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMH) has published a blog focusing on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in young children. The blog explores what PTSD in young children looks like, the challenges of assessing trauma in young children, and current research into effective treatment approaches for PTSD in children aged 3- to 8-years-old.	Read the blog post: Assessing and treating PTSD in young children
Children's screen use: consultation Source: DfE Date published: 08 June 2026 The Department for Education (DfE) has launched a call for evidence to inform upcoming guidance on healthy screen use for 5- to 16-year-olds in England. The government is seeking evidence on the impacts across health, development, wellbeing, behaviour and learning. The call for evidence will also seek views on screen use in schools to inform future policy development. The consultation closes on 29 June 2026.	Read the news story: New guidance on screen use for children aged 5–16 Find out more/submit evidence: Screen use by children aged 5 to 16
International child and family conference This conference, organised by The University of Bristol, takes place 14-16 June 2027 in Bristol.	Find out more: University of Bristol