

Safeguarding Bulletin – 26 November 2025

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Safeguarding bulletin



Hello

from Southwark's Safeguarding in Schools Team

Safeguarding
in Schools

>> Next Schools Safeguarding Forum – Thursday 4 December, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Next Schools Safeguarding Forum will take place on **Thursday 4 December 2025, 9.30am to 12.30pm at Southwark Council's Tooley Street Office, Room G01ABC, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH**. The agenda will include:

- Update from Southwark Children Social Care (MASH and Assessment & Intervention Teams)
- Southwark Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) Neglect toolkit
- Private fostering update
- Exploring the role and impact of school policing by Safer Schools Sergeant
- Peer support activity: sharing best practice around challenges of the DSL role

The Forum aims to keep schools/educational settings up to date with local and national changes and give access to best practice and resources. It is open to all designated and deputy designated safeguarding leads, senior leaders, chairs of governors and/or nominated lead governors for safeguarding in all types of Southwark schools and educational settings. It is also an opportunity to meet and network with other designated and deputy designated safeguarding leads as well as colleagues from other Council departments and partner agencies.

Please ensure that at least one member of your safeguarding team attends this session. **You do not need to register or book in advance and can join the session on the day.**

>> [Don't miss out on sharing your views about planned changes to DSL/DDSL training!](#)

From the Summer Term 2026, Southwark's designated and deputy designated safeguarding leads training will be delivered by the Safeguarding in Schools team, with input from other Southwark services and partner agencies. We want to ensure the new training works for schools and provides the right foundation for the DSL/DDSL roles. Please complete the survey to share your views, as this will be closing soon.

Southwark training opportunities

>> [Safeguarding in Schools Webinar now available to view](#)

The recording of the 'Supporting you to support young people' webinar from Southwark's free Safeguarding in Schools series is now available to view. The session, delivered by Groundwork on 25 November, explored trauma informed approach to understanding young people's mental health and behaviours, and shared tools to support students' and staff's wellbeing. Please do share with all school colleagues.

[You can share your feedback on this session or make suggestions for future webinars.](#)

Southwark news

>> 16 Days of Action Against Gender-Based Violence – 25 November to 10 December 2025

Southwark stands united with the global movement to end gender-based violence. Join a series of impactful events, training sessions, and awareness activities, with a particular focus on male allyship, intersectionality, and public safety.

Southwark proudly supports White Ribbon Day, championing this year's theme: ["We Speak Up for Change"](#)

Training and events

- [VoiceBox: Helping Boys Thrive and Promoting Healthy Masculinity](#) – 26 November, 6.00pm to 7.00pm. Online
- [Forward UK: “16 Days of Activism: Showcasing FORWARD’s Journey for Change” event](#) – 27 November, 10.00am to 2.00pm. In person at Una Marson Library
- [Ashiana Network: Harmful Traditional Practices Webinar](#) – 28 November, 2.30pm. Online
- [Refuge: Domestic Abuse Awareness Session](#) – 2 December, 12.00 noon to 1.00pm. Online
- [StreetlightUK: Engaging with Women in Prostitution & Victims of Sexual Exploitation](#) – 10 December, 9.30am to 11:30am. Online

Other news

>> [Sharing information to safeguard children and young people in the education sector in the UK](#)

The Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) has recently added a short guidance for people and organisations in the UK who work in the education sector with children and young people under 18. It should help feel confident to share personal information for safeguarding purposes. It explains the data protection aspects of sharing information to safeguard children and young people; it’s not a guide to safeguarding practice. It complements the overarching guidance [A 10 step guide to sharing information to safeguard children](#). Both pieces should be used together.

>> [Child Death Review Data Release: Year ending 31 March 2025](#)

The National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) has published data on the number and nature of child deaths in England in the year ending 31 March 2025. Key findings include: 3,492 children in England died in 2024-25, a decrease of 2% from 2023-24; the death rate for children in the most deprived areas of England was more than twice that for children in the least deprived areas; 17% of children were known to social care at the time of their death; and a further 15% of children had been previously known to social care before their death; the child death rate remained highest for children of black or black British ethnicity and Asian or Asian British ethnicity.

Other training opportunities

>> Free webinar: Creating cultures of care: supporting staff wellbeing in schools – Wednesday 3 December 4.00pm

The [UK charity Education Support](#), dedicated to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of teachers and education staff in schools, colleges and universities is running a one-hour webinar in partnership with Manchester Metropolitan University, where they will explore practical, research-informed strategies to help create cultures where staff feel supported, valued, and motivated to stay.

Find out more about support from [Southwark's Safeguarding in Schools Team](#)

For safeguarding resources and training information visit [Safeguarding in Education](#)