

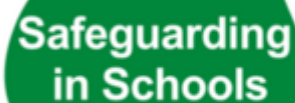
**Safeguarding Bulletin – 22 April 2026**

*Southwark Council sent this bulletin at 22-04-2026 05:06 PM BST*

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A green rectangular banner with the text "Safeguarding bulletin" in white, bold, sans-serif font.The word "Hello" written in a green, cursive font.

from Southwark's Safeguarding in Schools Team

A green circular logo with the text "Safeguarding in Schools" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**>> Stranger incidents**

Please note that we are no longer routinely sending out the stranger incidents bulletins. Information about stranger incidents can now be shared directly with the relevant police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) in your area. There has been an issue with the previous Suspicious Persons Intelligence Report (SPIR) form. **Please now complete this current [Suspicious Persons Intelligence Report \(SPIR\)](#) providing as much information as possible, save the completed form and send it to your area's SNT and copy it to the LA's Schools Safeguarding Coordinator Apo Çağırıcı ([apo.cagirici@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:apo.cagirici@southwark.gov.uk)) and the Police Specialist Community Liaison Supervisor Sergeant Maria Bruford ([maria.bruford@met.police.uk](mailto:maria.bruford@met.police.uk)).**

You can find your area's SNT by following the link <https://www.met.police.uk/area/your-area/> and entering your postcode.

Most recently, one of our schools has raised a concern about an adult visiting and attempting to locate a child who they claimed was their son. Staff should be reminded not to disclose any information about children to members of the public, regardless of whether the person claims to be a parent or a family member. The correct protocol is for the person who is making the enquiry to contact the child's legal guardian directly. **Please continue to be vigilant and reinforce stranger danger messages with children and parents/carers.**

## Southwark training opportunities

### >> [Southwark Virtual School – Summer Term 2026 training programme](#)

Information about Southwark Virtual School's Summer Term 2026 training programme including information about webinars from the Attachment Research Community (ARC), a webinar for staff who support care experienced young people and the young people themselves and training for kinship carers.

### >> **School Food Champion Workshop for secondary schools – 15 May**

9.00am to 12.00pm, Southwark Resource Centre, SE17. Secondary schools are invited to nominate staff for a free half-day workshop to strengthen whole-school food practice. Participants will receive practical resources, specialist advice, a local network, and ongoing buddy support. Open to kitchen staff, teachers, teaching assistants and administrative staff. To nominate yourself or a colleague, please email [kirtana.gunapalan@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:kirtana.gunapalan@southwark.gov.uk)

### >> **Training offer from our Safeguarding in Schools Team**

**DSL / DDSL refresher and induction training** is now delivered by the Safeguarding in Schools Lead, with input from other key Southwark services. **Bespoke, topic-based training** is also available which can be tailored to the context of your setting and needs of your staff group.

[Take a look at our website to find out more about our training offer.](#)

### >> **Next Safeguarding in Schools Webinar**

The next **Safeguarding in Schools Webinar** will be delivered by CAMHS on Wednesday 10 June 2026 12.30pm to 1.30pm on the topic of **Safeguarding Neurodivergent Children and Young People**.

Masking, shutdowns and meltdowns are common experiences in neurodivergent young people and are frequently misunderstood or confusing to the adults around them. This webinar will explore the invisible stressors that can lead to these bodily responses and shares tools to provide students with the neuroaffirming support they need to prevent burnout and thrive at school and beyond.

Staff from all Southwark schools are welcome to attend. Please [sign up to attend the next Safeguarding in Schools Webinar](#).

## Other news

### >> [New deepfake lessons to help safeguard children against AI-generated sexual imagery](#)

With support from the Home Office, the PSHE Association has launched [a suite of RSHE lesson plans](#) that give all schools access to the tools and strategies to educate about deepfakes and protect children and young people from AI-generated sexual imagery.

### >> [Screen time guidance for under 5s](#)

The Government published advice on screen use for children aged 0 to 5 on the Best Start in Life website. The early years are a critical period for children's development. The advice offers practical, non-judgemental support to help families balance screen use with other activities and is informed by [an expert panel's independent report](#), which draws on quantitative and qualitative research, including engagement with parents, carers and stakeholders.

### >> [Consultation on improved School Food Standards](#)

The Government is seeking views on updating the School Food Standards, so that every school is supported with the latest nutrition guidance. The Requirements for School Food Regulations 2014 (known as the School Food Standards) provide the legislative framework to ensure schools in England provide children with healthy food and drink, and to make sure that children

have the energy and nutrition they need across the school day. The existing standards have been in place for over ten years and no longer align with current dietary advice. This consultation closes 12 Jun 2026.

>> [Navigating conspiracies and misinformation in schools: eight areas for teachers and leaders to consider](#)

Young people are vulnerable to real-world harms of conspiracy theories and misinformation; the 'information age' amplifies this vulnerability. The [National Institute's Centre for Digital Information Literacy in Schools](#), with funding from the [Pears Foundation](#) has published a quick-start guide to tackling the increasing problem of conspiracy beliefs and misinformation in schools.

>> [New school-age childcare guidance for schools with primary-age pupils](#)

Non-statutory guidance for schools and academy trusts on how to set up and deliver school-age childcare provision and their role in supporting families to access provision during term times and holidays.

>> [Child Safety Week 2026 – 1 to 7 June](#)

Child Safety Week is the [Child Accident Prevention Trust's](#) annual community education campaign to help families build confidence and skills in managing the real risks to children's safety. There are free downloadable resources including fact sheets, activity sheets, session plans and display materials as well as translations of some of their popular fact sheets into additional languages – including Albanian; Amharic; Arabic; Bengali; Bulgarian; Cantonese; Dari; Kurdish; Malyalam; Mandarin; Pashto; Polish; Punjabi; Romanian; Somali; Tigrinya; Turkish; Ukrainian; Urdu; Welsh and Yoruba.

## Other training opportunities

**Organisations referenced in this bulletin are not necessarily commissioned or endorsed by Southwark council. Please apply your own due diligence.**

If you have any colleagues who would like to receive this weekly safeguarding bulletin, they can [sign up to Southwark's Safeguarding in Schools bulletin](#).

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

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