

Safeguarding Bulletin - 8 July 2026

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Safeguarding bulletin



Hello

from Southwark's Safeguarding in Schools Team

Safeguarding
in Schools

Celebrating good practice

Through Attachment Research Community (ARC) memberships, funded by Southwark's Virtual School, Beormund Primary School, Dulwich Hamlet Junior School and Surrey Square Primary School have achieved **Trauma-Informed Attachment Aware Schools (TIAAS) Gold accreditation!**

At **Beormund Primary School**, staff support pupils to map key life events in Personalisation Folders in order to better understand experiences and needed. Through their use of reflective practice, the school has created a culture where staff are confident in supporting emotional regulation by responding to children with empathy.

Following developing a Relationships and Behaviour Policy grounded in trauma awareness, staff at **Dulwich Hamlet Junior School** report increased confidence in recognising and responding to the impact of trauma. Their 'Protect, Relate,

Regulate, Restore' framework creates a shared language and approach across the school.

A trauma-informed practice and family wellbeing training, tailored to the needs of the community, has strengthened early identification and support at **Surrey Square Primary School**. Termly wellbeing surveys allow children's voices to be heard plus hidden anxieties and emerging safeguarding concerns to be identified and responded to.

Southwark's Virtual School is proud to have supported these schools, and more, to strengthen their capacity to meet the needs of children who have experienced adversity, reflecting a shared ambition to move beyond behaviour management towards a greater equity, improved engagement, and better outcomes for children.

For more information about how Southwark Virtual School can support trauma-informed practice in your school, please contact: Katherine.bainbridge@southwark.gov.uk

Our new feature celebrates safeguarding good practice and shares learning. If you'd like to contribute an example from within your school or from multi-agency work, please contact:
emma.geiringer@southwark.gov.uk

Keeping Children Safe in Education



Keeping children safe in education 2026

Statutory guidance for schools
and colleges

For information only, this guidance
does not come into force until 1
September 2026

>> Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 now published

The finalised version of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 has now been published. Please note this is currently for information only, with the 2025 version remaining in force until the end of August 2026.

The published version largely aligns with the draft released for consultation earlier in the year, and does contain far more substantial changes than previous versions - including all staff now needing to read Part One in full (the Annex A summary has been removed); new regulations around sport, toilets, showers and changing rooms; and more focus on safeguarding issues including mental health, online safety and harmful sexual behaviour.

Schools need to be aware of these changes and update policy / procedures accordingly, so please do familiarise yourselves with the new guidance.

Southwark's Safeguarding in Schools Team are currently making significant updates to our [model policy for schools](#) and will share this as soon as possible.

The government have also published [allergy safety guidance for schools](#), which includes information about creating an allergy safety policy, staff training and Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) for students.

Southwark news

>> Request from MASH: DSL availability over summer

Safeguarding issues still arise over the summer break, but schools have varying arrangements around DSL/DDSL/staff availability. If MASH are screening a referral and require information from school, they will still seek to obtain this and the standard timescales would apply for when the information needs to be provided in order for the screening to be completed. To assist this process, MASH would like to know whether DSLs will still be available over the summer break and how's best to contact them. **Please email MASH@southwark.gov.uk with information about availability or cover arrangements over the summer break and relevant contact details for any information requests to be sent to.**

We also recommend setting an auto-reply on your emails to explain your availability and sign post to any alternative contacts as needed.

>> Follow up from the Schools Safeguarding Forum, 2 July 2026

Thanks to those who attended our Schools Safeguarding Forum last week, we hope you found this useful. You can now [access all the slides and some additional supporting documents online](#).

Following their presentation, [CAMHS are requesting that schools complete this short survey about mental health challenges and feedback to CAMHS](#). Your input would be welcomed even if you didn't attend the forum.

We'd also appreciate if you could [complete this short feedback survey](#) to help us ensure these events are suited to meet your needs. Even if you weren't at the forum, you can still complete the form to share your views for future forums.

>> Annual Southwark SEND Survey – until 31 July

The Southwark SEND and Inclusion Partnership is seeking your views on support for children and young people with SEND. Your insights will help us understand what is working well and where improvements are needed.

Please share this information with colleagues, and the children and young people, parents and carers you support.

>> Join the SSCP Quality and Effectiveness subgroup

Southwark Safeguarding Children Partnership are looking for an education representative (preferably a Head or Deputy Head Teacher) to join the Quality and Effectiveness subgroup. This group meets virtually every other month and is responsible for ensuring the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements across the partnership by identifying strengths / good practice, areas of risk / vulnerability; and improvement of outcomes through things like audits and policy development.

If you're interested in getting involved, contact Mary Moroney, Safeguarding Partnership Manager: Mary.Moroney@southwark.gov.uk

>> Free summer programme for those transitioning from Year 6 to 7

Southwark are funding a free 10-day summer programme for children aged 10/11 at Rye Oak Primary School between 27 July and 7 August 2026. The programme is specifically designed for those who are feeling worried about transitioning to secondary school or would benefit from practice new skills, building confident and making new friends.

More details are available in their [brochure](#), and children can be [signed up online](#) where there is also an information video.

Other news

>> Children's Commissioner report about children's mental health services

This new report examines referrals, access to treatment, waiting times, and service investment in England between 2024 and 2025. It looks at how children's journeys through mental health services differ depending on factors like age, gender and area-level deprivation. The report finds services have not been able to match demand and calls for change on a national level.

>> Creative Communities Creating Change (4Cs) open day for families – 29 July

Creative Communities Creating Change (4Cs) is a new Creative Health programme supporting young people aged 11 to 19 and parents / carers across South London. The programme seeks to provide accessible, community based mental health and wellbeing support for young people and families. They are hosting an open day on 29 July in Brixton which is free to attend – please share the information with your families.

Online safety

>> [New safety guide for parents about AI Child Sexual Abuse Imagery](#)

The Internet Watch Foundation have created a new guide to help parents understand more about how AI can be misused to make, manipulate and share nude, semi-nude or sexual images and videos of children (which is illegal child sexual abuse material) and steps to help keep children safe online.

There's also a [guide to support professionals to understand and respond to AI-Generated Child Sexual Abuse Material](#).

Other training opportunities

>> [Free workshop about gaming and gambling harms – 15 September](#)

Ygam are working with the London Safeguarding Children Partnership to provide fully funded workshops on gaming and gambling harms, including a specific session for Teachers and Youth Workers to increase their safeguarding knowledge on gaming and gambling harms and how to confidently signpost and facilitate conversations with the children and young people you work with.

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](#).