

Follow us on Twitter



Access training on Eventbrite



Follow us on LinkedIn



For more info access our website

✉ safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk📍 safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk

If you have any information that you would like to be included within the SSP newsletter please send the information to the safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk

For ease of navigation, please click on the hyperlinks to take you to the relevant section.

- ✓ [SSP/CSP Training 2023-2024](#)
- ✓ [Other Local Training/Alternative Learning Resources/Briefings](#)
- ✓ [SSP/CSP Policies and Procedures](#)
- ✓ [Local News and Updates](#)
- ✓ [National News, Updates and Useful Resources](#)
- ✓ [NSPCC Learning](#)

SSP Training 2023-24

SSP/CSP Multi-Agency Training Offer 2023 -24 Update



[Further information about the training offer/FAQ's](#)
[SSP Courses Charter](#)
[Guidance on navigating the training webpage](#)

At the time of publishing we still have some places on the courses below:

- ✓ **Early Help Assessment and Planning:** Link: [Early help assessment and plan - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
16th May 2023 (face to face) - Limited spaces
- ✓ **Screening, section 42 enquiries, planning meetings, adult safeguarding plans:** Link [Screening, section 42 enquiries, planning meetings, adult safeguarding plans - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
16th May 2023 (virtual) - Limited spaces
- ✓ **Strategy discussions, child protection conferences and core groups:** Link [Strategy discussions, child protection conferences, and core groups - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
7th June 2023 (virtual) - Limited spaces
- ✓ **Swindon Domestic Abuse Forum:** Link [Swindon Domestic Abuse Forum - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
9th June 2023 (virtual)
- ✓ **Identifying Safeguarding Concerns and Making Referrals (child) :** Link [Identifying safeguarding concerns and making referrals \(children\) - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
15th June 2023 (virtual) - Limited spaces

Please do have a look at the SSP training [webpage](#) for other courses available.

Other Local Training/Alternative Learning Resources/Briefings

Legal Age of Marriage and Forced Marriage rises from 16 to 18 years



The legal age to marry in England and Wales rose from 16 to 18 years on February 27th 2023 as part of the Marriage and Civil Partnership Act 2022.

This means that no 16 or 17 year old can enter a marriage or civil partnership even with parental consent.

Forced Marriage is where one or both people do not consent to the marriage (or are unable to consent) and there is pressure or abuse used to force them.

It is also Forced Marriage if steps are taken to make someone marry before they are 18 even if there is no pressure or abuse.

Forced Marriage is a form of domestic abuse.

It is illegal in the UK and this includes taking someone abroad to marry. Those found guilty could face up to 7 years in prison.

The Government have updated the guidance for Forced Marriage and links to these and other resources are included below:

[The right to choose: government guidance on forced marriage - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/forced-marriage)

[Multi-agency statutory guidance for dealing with forced marriage and Multi-agency practice guidelines: Handling cases of forced marriage \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/multi-agency-practice-guidelines-handling-cases-of-forced-marriage)

You can download leaflets, posters, resources and a full list of support services from the Government's [Forced Marriage Resource Pack](#) and 'What is Forced Marriage?' resource.

Update

Controlling and Coercive Behaviour Offence



The Domestic Abuse Act amended the controlling and coercive behaviour offence to remove the 'living together' requirement, and this update came into force on 5 April.

The Home Office have also now published the updated Controlling or coercive behaviour statutory guidance, which can be accessed here: [Controlling or coercive behaviour statutory guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/guidance/controlling-or-coercive-behaviour-statutory-guidance)

The 7 minute brief on coercive control has been updated click on this link to access [Coercive control - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

Learning from Swindon Safeguarding Adult Reviews

SAR Brian SAR Alison



SAR Brian

In the recently published [SAR Brian report](#), one recommendation was to share the Alcohol Change report and the Stoke and Staffordshire SAR "Andrew".

Partner agencies are requested to consider how the presence and characteristics identified might be spotted in future cases of alcohol and drug dependent adults and how this might lead to interventions that result in better outcomes. Link to relevant resources:

[Alcohol Change Report](#)
[SAR Andrew](#)

	<p>SAR Alison</p> <p>In the SAR Alison Exploitation report (read here), recommendations were made in relation to the inclusion of housing colleagues in multi-agency meetings.</p> <p>Concerns with and by neighbours in instances of individuals with complex and established mental health needs should be escalated to a multi-agency meeting that must include, where appropriate, a representative of the social landlord concerned. All SSP Partners and with key agencies responsible for escalating concerns to a multi-agency meeting are advised of this action. Further guidance can be found in the documents: Multi agency meeting guidance working with adults - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership Adults Escalation Policy - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership</p>
<p>Online Safety Free Face to Face Webinar Swindon</p> <p>Change to date!</p> <p>Thursday 6th July 2023</p> <p>9:30am-11:00am</p>  	<p>The UK Safer Internet Centre are delivering a FREE Online Safety Session in partnership with Swindon Safeguarding Partnership. This event will bring the latest in Online Safety to your doorstep.</p> <p>Venue: Abbey Farm Educate Together Primary, Diamond Crescent, Swindon SN25 2SJ</p> <p>A special thanks to Emma Lindsay and colleagues at Abbey Farm who have assisted with this venue.</p> <p>To find out more and to book a place click on this link Online Safety Live - Swindon Tickets, Thu 6 Jul 2023 at 09:30 Eventbrite</p>
<p>Learning Resources to Improve Practice</p> <p>Reminder</p> 	<p>Just a reminder that we have a wide range of resources available to support learning and professional development. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 7 minute briefs and practice briefs to access the directory please click here. ✓ Free eLearning from external providers to view the directory - click on this link Provided by external organisation - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership ✓ Video archive click on this link to access Video archive - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership
<p>SSP/CSP Policies and Procedures</p>	
	<p>No new documents to report this month.</p>
<p>Local News and Updates</p>	
<p>We want your views!</p> <p>Mental Capacity Act</p> 	<p>Please take a couple of minutes to complete this survey.</p> <p>Recent Swindon SAR's highlighted key themes including working with self-neglect, awareness and application of the Care Act in those cases, multi-agency approaches to working with complex cases and the application of the Mental Capacity Act.</p> <p>By responding to this survey, you can help the Safeguarding Partnership to identify what more can be done to support frontline practitioners. Please click on the link to respond to the survey: https://forms.office.com/e/FSY60LsHPj</p>

<p>We want your views!</p> <p>The Right Help @ The Right Time Threshold Guidance</p> 	<p>It has been over 6 months since the updated Right Help at the Right Time Threshold Guidance was launched. As part of the implementation of the guidance we would your feedback and your experiences of using the guidance.</p> <p>This will only take a couple of minutes to complete. To access click on this link: https://forms.office.com/e/ym8FnjKAdk</p> <p>Please provide responses by Friday 9th June.</p> <p>Please share with your colleagues. Your responses will help inform any future reviews and updates to the guidance.</p>
<p>New Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) webpage</p> 	<p>Swindon Borough Council’s Community Safety team have recently launched a new Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) webpage for members of the public to report Anti-Social Behaviour within the Borough to the Council.</p> <p>There is also an Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review, that victims of anti-social behaviour can request should they have experienced three separate incidents of ASB within a six month period and feel that their reports haven’t been actioned correctly.</p> <p>To access the webpage click on this link: Report ASB Anti-social behaviour Swindon Borough Council</p>
<p>Challenge and Scrutiny Young Champions Project</p> 	<p>The DfE Young Champions project produced a Student Voice audit toolkit for education providers.</p> <p>The toolkit is editable and can be applied to any agency or service working with young people.</p> <p>The toolkit has been designed by young champions and is a mechanism for agencies to ensure young people in their setting understand how to report safeguarding concerns and where to access support within the setting.</p> <p>This toolkit also includes questions around mental health support. However, the audit tool can be expanded upon and co-produced by young people in individual settings to make it relevant to your service.</p> <p>These documents can be accessed here on our new Participation page - Participation - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership</p>
<p>National News, Updates and Useful Resources</p>	
<p>Multi-agency Practice Principles for responding to child exploitation and extra-familial harm published</p>	<p>The Principles are non-statutory guidance commissioned by the Department for Education, and have cross-government support from the Home Office, the Department for Health and Social Care, and the Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>The eight Practice Principles build on the expertise of children/young people, parents/carers, and multi-agency professionals, as well as on key research to offer a guide to professionals across multi-agency partnerships, with a role in responding to child exploitation and/or extra-familial harm.</p> <p>Further information can be found on the Tackling Child Exploitation website</p> <p>Resources include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ An evidence summary, a succinct summary of the research drawn upon in developing the Principles;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A Practice reflection tool, a professional development tool to support practitioners to reflect on the Principles, and their application to their own practice; ✓ A multi-agency partnership reflective tool, an interactive, reflective tool for local partnerships to work together to assess their responses to child exploitation and extra-familial harm, using the eight Principles to identify areas of strength and where there is scope for developing their partnership approach; ✓ An animation to explain the evidence, ideas and interdependencies that underpin the Principles; ✓ Shifting Mindsets: starting premises when approaching parents and carers, a resource to support local agencies and partnerships to engage parents and carers as partners at an operational and strategic level; and ✓ Youth Voice in strategic change, a resource to help local agency leaders and partnerships incorporate children and young people’s views at a strategic level.
<p>Key Research Updates</p> <p>March 2023</p> <p>Free eLearning</p> 	<p>Child sexual abuse impacts children in various ways throughout their lives, so no two people are affected in the same way. Research indicates that being abused in childhood can have several possible mental and physical impacts, but there is much professionals can do to improve outcomes for the children they work with. Further information can be found on this webpage Key messages from research on the impacts of child sexual abuse - CSA Centre</p> <p>‘Child sexual abuse in institutional contexts’ is the term used to distinguish it from abuse in the family or other settings. The term ‘institution’ includes not only bricks and mortar environments such as schools and hospitals, but also organisations working with children, young people and families in community settings, such as social care services, sports clubs and religious groups.</p> <p>Further information can be found on this webpage Key messages from research on child sexual abuse in institutional contexts - CSA Centre</p> <p>Reminder of free eLearning available – identifying and responding to intra-familial child sexual abuse – to access click on this link eLearning - CSA Centre</p>
<p>Social Care Institute for Excellence Updates</p> <p>Care Act 2014 training resource</p>	<p>The Care Act 2014 is a key piece of legislation in the social care sector. They have developed an online Care Act training resource with the Department of Health and Social Care, exploring duties around eight Care Act themes identified by parliament’s Social Care Committee.</p> <p>The training includes bite-size videos identifying the social care practitioner legal duties and the impact of the legal duties people in the community. To use the resources follow the link below: Care Act training: Legal duties and impact on individuals SCIE</p>
<p>PHEW Updates</p>	<p>Phew have teamed up with the Alzheimer’s Society Innovation Team to develop a much needed hospital journey tracker, to help reduce the amount of time that people living with dementia spend in hospital, unnecessarily, and offer transparency of patients care.</p> <p>Alzheimer’s Society recently shared a story of how Tiziana’s mother, who had been affected by dementia, and the miscommunications she endured relating to her mother’s hospital discharge, and how this lead to Tiziana to joining a focus group which Phew and Alzheimer’s Society develop the</p>

	<p>hospital journey tracker. To view the hospital journey tracker please follow the link: Hospital journey tracker project with Alzheimer's Society - Phew</p>
<p>UK Safer internet Centre Updates</p>	<p>New filtering and monitoring standards introduced by the Department for Education: The Department for Education has introduced new filtering monitoring standards to help better protect children and young people online. Schools and colleges are encouraged to use these standards to evaluate their current filtering and monitoring strategies. To find out more please follow the link - New filtering and monitoring standards introduced by the Department for Education - UK Safer Internet Centre</p> <p>Win a prize for your school through the Childnet Film Competition: The Film Competition would make a fantastic online safety provision for your next term. Our entry packs contain planning sheets to support your learners and help guide them with what they want to include in their film, as well as information about copyright and answers to some FAQs. To find out more and to get involved follow the link - Take part in the Childnet Film Competition 2023 - UK Safer Internet Centre</p> <p>“Experts Answer” blog series for parents and carers: Our partners at Childnet have taken over our blog section, with their education team answering your frequently asked questions about online safety.</p> <p>Here are three that have already been published and watch this space for more – have your questions been answered below?</p> <p><u>Experts answer: “The online world feels like such a minefield. How can I keep my kids safe?”</u></p> <p><u>Experts answer: “When do you think my child should get their own phone?”</u></p> <p><u>Experts Answer: “How much time should my child be spending on social media?”</u></p> <p>IWF works alongside Ukraine to help stop spread of child sexual abuse material: The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), a partner in the UK Safer Internet Centre, has relaunched a special Ukrainian language portal to help fight online child sexual abuse imagery a year on from the start of the Russian invasion. The portal allows people to report suspected sexual imagery of children anonymously and safely if they stumble across it online. Follow the link to find out more : IWF works alongside Ukraine to help stop spread of child sexual abuse material - UK Safer Internet Centre</p>
<p>Mankind Updates</p>	<p>Tougher sentences for those who kill male victims of domestic abuse: The latest ONS figures show 18 men in 2021/22 were killed by a partner or ex-partner. This is why we support the change in the law so a history of coercive or controlling behaviour against the victim or the use of excessive or gratuitous violence are made aggravating factors in sentencing decisions for murder.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • longer sentences where killer has a history of coercive or controlling behaviour • murderers who use excessive violence face longer in prison • manslaughter sentencing guidelines around ‘rough sex’ to be reviewed <p>Full details of the changes are here</p> <p>The Electoral Commission: Supporting survivors of domestic abuse to register to vote: The UK Government has introduced a requirement for</p>

voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station. This new requirement will apply for the first time in England at the local elections on Thursday May 4th 2023.

If appearing on either the open or full electoral register puts a person's safety (or the safety of someone in their household) at risk, they may be able to apply to register to vote anonymously.

Plans to protect children under new mediation reforms: The Government has announced a fund for mandatory mediation for separating couples. The proposals will see mediation become mandatory in all suitable low-level family court cases excluding those which include allegations or a history of domestic violence. This will mean separating couples have to attempt to agree their child custody and financial arrangements through a qualified mediator with court action being a last resort.

The Government's Family Mediation Voucher Scheme will be extended until April 2025 backed by an additional £15 million in funding. The scheme provides separating couples with vouchers worth up to £500 to help them solve disputes through mediation. Full details of the changes are online [here](#)

NSPCC Learning



NSPCC
Learning

- **Child Sexual Abuse Recovery Project** - NSPCC Learning has published a briefing on its pilot of a system-wide approach to child sexual abuse (CSA). **Read the briefing** - [Child Sexual Abuse Recovery Project briefing](#)
- **Police Strip Searches**- The Children's Commissioner for England has published an analysis of strip searches of children conducted by police under their stop and search powers across England and Wales. **Read the report**- [Strip search of children in England and Wales](#)
- **Online Safety** - The Department for Education (DfE) has created filtering and monitoring standards for schools and colleges in England to help protect children online. **View the standards**- [Meeting digital and technology standards in schools and colleges](#)
- **Online Behaviours** - Ofcom has published two reports looking at children's media habits and attitudes. The findings from the children and parents: media use and attitudes project was based on online panels with around 7,000 children and parents. **Download the report** - [Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2023](#)
- **Self Harm** - The BBC has published a news story on hospital admissions due to self-harm in the UK. **Read the news story** - [Self-harm hospital admissions up 22% for children aged eight to 17](#)
- **Looked after Children**- The Department for Education (DfE) has published the latest statistics on looked after children aged 16-17 in independent or semi-independent placements in England. **View the statistics**- : [Looked after children aged 16 to 17 in independent or semi-independent placements](#)
- **Maternal Healthcare** - The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman has published a report which shares the stories of women who have been affected by failures in maternity services in England. **Read the report** - [Repeated failings putting women and babies at risk](#)
- **Non Accidental Injuries**- The Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB) has published a report looking at factors influencing the diagnosis of non accidental injuries in infants who visit emergency

departments (ED) in England. **Read the report** - [Non-accidental injuries in infants attending the emergency department](#)

- **Health Visitor** - The Institute of Health Visiting (iHV) has published a podcast episode on the importance and purpose of the health visitor baby clinic. **Listen to the podcast** - [New iHV podcast – Dilys Daws](#)
- **Asylum Seeking Children** - The Home Office and UK Visas and Immigration have published guidance for professionals about the new National Age Assessment Board (NAAB) in the UK. **Read the guidance**- [National Age Assessment Board: caseworker guidance](#)
- **Children in care** - The National Children’s Bureau has published an analysis of the Department for Education’s guidance on supported accommodation in England. **Read the analysis**- [NCB's analysis of supported accommodation](#)
- **Student Mental Health** - The National Education Union has published the results of its survey into student mental health in England and Wales. **Read the news story** - [State of education: mental health](#)
- **Child Wellbeing**- The Children’s Society has published a blog post on children and stress which provides tips and suggestions on recognising the signs of stress and listening to children. **Reads the news story**- [Boiling point: talking to children about stress](#)
- **Why language matters** - NSPCC Learning has published a blog post on the term ‘toxic trio’ as part of the Why language matters blog series. **Read the blog post**- [‘Toxic trio’: unhelpful and inaccurate](#)
- **Infants learning from case reviews**- NSPCC Learning has published a learning from case review briefing around Infants. **Read the briefing**- [Infants: learning from case reviews](#)
- **Report to remove tool**- NSPCC Learning has published a podcast episode about the Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) online self-reporting tool, Report Remove. **Listen to the podcast** - [Podcast: an introduction to Report Remove, an online self-reporting tool for young people](#)
- **Physical Punishment**- The NSPCC has published a news story on protecting children from physical punishment in England. **Read the news story** - [Majority of public want children in England to have same protection from assault as adults](#)
- **Supported Accommodation**- The Department for Education (DfE) has introduced new regulations stating all supported accommodation providers for looked after 16- and 17-year-olds in England must register with Ofsted and meet new quality standards from October 2023. **Read the guidance** - [Providing supported accommodation for children and young people](#)
- **Violence against women and girls**- The Commission on Young Lives has launched a call for evidence on the impact of violence and exploitation of girls and young women, including around criminal gangs. **Find out more**- [Call for evidence: violence and exploitation of girls and young women, including around criminal gangs](#)
- **Parental Mental Health**- The Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMH) has published a new podcast episode on parental mental health. **Listen to the podcast** - [The PRIMERA project – parental mental health and family-focused interventions](#)
- **School Absence**- BBC Sounds has released a new show on school absences which investigates why children are missing from schools

across Britain. **Visit the page-** [Terri White: finding Britain's ghost children](#)

- **Child Mental Health-** NSPCC Learning has published a podcast episode on children's mental health in schools. **Listen to the podcast-** [Learn what education professionals can do to build a positive mental health culture in schools and recognise when young people are struggling](#)
- **Online Safety -** The Department for Education (DfE) has created filtering and monitoring standards for schools and colleges in England to help protect children online. **View the standards-** [Meeting digital and technology standards in schools and colleges](#)
- **Young People's Health and Relationships-** The Sex Education Forum has published a report on young people in England's views on the statutory Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum. **Download the report -** [Young people's RSE poll 2022](#)
- **Relationships, sex and health education -** The Children's Commissioner for England has published a blog on relationships, sex and health education (RSHE) which looks at the background and quality of RSHE lessons. **Read the blog -** [In a post-pandemic world, children are struggling with anxiety more than ever. What can we do to help?](#)
- **Disabled Children -** The Disabled Children's Partnership has published research into the experiences of disabled children and their families in England. **Read the press release -** [#FailedandForgotten – read our new report](#)
- **Adult to Child Ratios -** The Department for Education (DfE) has responded to a consultation on regulatory changes to childcare in England. **Read the government response -** [Childcare: regulatory changes](#)
- **Learning from case reviews-** NSPCC Learning has launched a new course supporting professionals to put lessons from case reviews into practice and improve safeguarding for children and young people. **Take the course-** [Learning from case reviews](#)
- **Anti-Social Behaviour -** The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has published a policy paper on managing anti-social behaviour in England and Wales. **Read the policy paper -** [Anti-social behaviour action plan](#)
- **Child Sexual Abuse Online-** His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) has published a report on the police response to online child sexual abuse and exploitation (CSAE) in England and Wales. **Read the report-** [An inspection of how well the police and National Crime Agency tackle the online sexual abuse and exploitation of children](#)