**January Cluster Meetings – 20th/21st January 2021:**

* **Hannah Ives, CP Lead updates:**

**Firstly, THANK YOU for all your hard work in schools continuing to keep children safe. We know you are working harder than ever and lots of you didn’t have a proper break over Christmas. Safeguarding is more important than ever in this climate and the role schools play is even more invaluable – especially the roles played by all of you! Thank you 😊**

* **If you haven’t already please fill out cluster group survey –** [**here**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ebasqoHD-0izIPnVge6Uj8wAzAfu_xZBh3h9mNrUGpRUOE5HWjVQWEpQN1Y4REhBMUkxWjZLQUlIRi4u)

Feedback will be used to improve future clusters!

* [**Working Together 2018**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2) **had some updates in Dec 2020** although still being referred to as 2018. Please see Annex 1 (below) for information on changes.
* **KCSIE – consultation period is now underway for 2021 version** – have your say [here](https://consult.education.gov.uk/safeguarding-in-schools-team/keeping-children-safe-in-education-schools-and-col/) – there also dates listed for DSL consultation sessions. The sections that see the greatest potential changes are in safer recruitment, child on child sexual violence and sexual harassment (peer-on-peer abuse) and the role of the designated safeguarding lead.
* **Also Proposed changes - Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment 2021** [**here**](https://consult.education.gov.uk/safeguarding-in-schools-team/keeping-children-safe-in-education-schools-and-col/)
consultation closes on 4th March 2021 for both.
* **School 175/157 Safeguarding Audit** has now been sent out to DSLs/Heads with information on how to complete. Please complete online and return attached Action plan by 5th March. Any questions just let me know.

**Key Speakers:**

* **Dale Hughes (Project Lead for Exclusions – Participation Team)**
* Presentation on school exclusions and reintegration project **(see attached slides).**
* **Sandy Thompson – Education Manager for The Young Gamers and Gamblers Education Trust (YGAM).**

Youth gaming and gambling harm prevention: Raising awareness and building digital resilience

**The Young Gamers and Gamblers Education Trust** (YGAM) is a national charity with a social purpose to inform, educate, safeguard and build digital resilience amongst those who work with young people, helping them to make informed decisions and understand the consequences around gambling and gaming.

 The latest report from the Gambling Commission (October 2019) found that 11% of 11 – 16 year olds had spent their own money on a gambling activity in the last seven days (this equate to 350,000), and 55,000 young people were already identified as problematic gamblers. The Children’s Commissioner found that a staggering 93% of young people play video games, a hugely popular activity which carries a range of potential risks including grooming.

 **YGAMS training is free of charge and fully assured by City and Guilds as are our resources.** It has been designed to enable teachers and support staffto deliver sessions directly to young people.  There are over 450 resources which are aligned to the PSHE and RSE Curriculum for KS2 to KS5. For each year group there is a full scheme of work and six ‘ready to go’ lesson plans, PowerPoints, and infographics, ideal for PSHE Coordinators and DSLs.

 **The training is delivered in two parts. Part one, a 90 minute webinar can be booked here**: [https://www.ygam.org/book-a-workshop/](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ygam.org%2Fbook-a-workshop%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7C22f71f0be9ed4b3da72508d8c2a6c9cc%7Caaacb679c38148fbb320f9d581ee948f%7C0%7C0%7C637473368892270663%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=gSbyMxBijmCXCxrIEL3fq1hzm6sWv4NhPVAyZH%2FpG7g%3D&reserved=0)

 Topics covered include:

* how young people are increasingly exposed to gaming and gambling
* the influence of advertising, particularly around sporting events
* the role of social media, in game purchases, loot boxes and Esports
* the signs of harm and where to seek help

Following this, attendees will be sent a link to book onto part two, a shorter session that will provide access to all the resources along with a digital certificate from City & Guilds to evidence their CPD.

 YGAM **can also schedule bespoke workshops to train school staff**: If you would like to arrange this for an inset day or across a couple of twilights, please email: sandythompson@ygam.org, Telephone: 07494 964888.

* **Phil Skidmore – Axis Project Lead**
* **Presentation on the aims of the project (see attached slides)**
* Currently only about 5 schools sharing information with Phil/Axis. Axis really want to build relationships with all schools and request all schools share information with them. If you would like any training for staff around Axis, Phil is more than happy to organise a short session specific to the needs of a school. Please just get in touch. (lots of positive feedback from schools who have worked with Axis).

Phil’s details: Phone: 07823 501585 **Axis E-mail:****axis@hillingdon.gov.uk**

* **Allyson Keith – Safer Schools Police Sergeant**

Allyson is happy to take calls and provide advice and support to schools regarding police matters where necessary. However, it is really important people do not leave messages regarding urgent police matters. In an emergency 999 should be called or if schools need to seek/share information and can’t get through to Allyson don’t leave a message but instead call 111. This is the same for if schools hear of an incident in the local area and are concerned about whether they need to take action regarding their own pupils safety they should use 111 if unable to get through to safer schools officer. Always 999 in an emergency.

Allyson Keith: **Tel:** 07766 497676 **Email:** Allyson.Keith@met.police.uk

\*\*(for professional use only – not to be passed to parents.)\*\*

* **Stella Anaxagorou – Domestic Abuse Lead for Education**

Any issues with encompass please let Stella know. Please can everyone remember to fill in their monthly returns. Anyone not signed up for operation encompass and keen to hear more please contact Stella.

Box notifications during lockdown:

If schools receive notification there has been a domestic abuse incident when a child is not currently attending school please do not call parent/child and inform them you have received the notification or ask them about it. The notification is just to make the school aware and to be used for monitoring and support purposes not for the school to address directly with the family. Please monitor as usual in these circumstances, being alert to any safeguarding concerns. Please refer to monitoring vulnerable children guidance attached. If unsure please don’t hesitate to contact Stella, Hannah or MASH for advice.

Stella: sanaxagorou@hillingdon.gov.uk Mobile: 07547951687

* **AOB**

**MASH checks** – Some schools have been asked to complete twice; once at MASH stage and once at assessment stage. I have confirmed that schools should only have to complete a MASH check once in these circumstances. Any checks received by MASH are uploaded and should be read by Social Workers. Good practice is that if a family is allocated a social worker then the worker would contact school (verbal/email) for any updates. Schools shouldn’t need to do another MASH check. Please raise with me if this happens and I will be happy to follow up.

* **LEAP**

<https://leap.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/5773/Access-to-Education>

LEAP (Local Education Area Partnership) is an education community portal for the education community within the London Borough of Hillingdon. The portal is designed to give access to wider education information to the education community and can also be used to advertise and book education courses. Schools can find a range of information and resources on LEAP and this is continuing to expand with the aim for this to be a ‘one stop shop’ for education over the coming months. This month we aim to include a specific page on safeguarding with resources, training, guidance etc.

There is no log in required and all schools can access – please take a look!

* **Training**

Initial Working Together and Working Together refresher training (both level 3) are currently bookable on [Hillingdon Learning Zone](http://hillingdon.learningpool.com/) with dates for the coming year added.

For any difficulties booking please email learninganddevelopment@hillingdon.gov.uk

I am available to deliver level 1 safeguarding training/updates to all staff - sessions face to face or online (free of charge). These can be delivered during the school day/inset days or as twilight sessions. Please get in touch with me to discuss. Hannah Ives; hives@hillingdon.gov.uk Tel: 07753431285

Governor/Trustee Safeguarding & LADO awareness Training will now be run by myself and Rob on a termly basis. This will be refreshed each school year in line with KCSIE updates with the aim being for all governors/trustees to attend one session each year. Next date is Weds 21st April 6pm to 7:30pm via Microsoft Teams. Log in details will be sent nearer the time.

**Annex 1:**

 **Working Together 2018 updates:**

Most of the changes brought the document up to date with changes to legislation or to make it more readable. Note that the front cover is still labelled with the original publication date of July 2018. To identify the new version, look at the copyright date (2020) on the back cover.

Key changes include:

* clarification about information sharing, this is the most important area to take note of, for example, strongly stating 'you [schools] do not need consent to share personal information...provided that there is a lawful basis to process any personal information required’ (see page 106);
* updating the definition of safeguarding (first seen in Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020)) to specifically include mental health;
* Clarity about the Homelessness Duty, especially early assessments for 16/17 year olds; and
* strengthening the wording of domestic abuse by including coercive control

Actions needed

* Update policy and CPD around Information Sharing changes
* Update policy and CPD about domestic abuse, particularly about coercive control
* **Changes to Safer Recruitment**

Important legal changes came into force on the 28th November 2020 to take into account a judgement by the Supreme Court. These changes are:
* Cautions given to under 18s are no longer legally disclosed
* The multiple conviction rule has been removed so that each offence should be considered individually
* Applicants must be told how to get independent, confidential advice on which cautions or convictions they must disclose and be given time to obtain advice

**Actions required**

There are a number of changes that are required to ensure that schools are compliant with the Supreme Court's rulings. These include changes to application forms, short listing and interview procedures and data protection related to criminal information.