**Education Improvement**

**Safeguarding Team**

**Key Information**

**Safeguarding Team Contacts**

The Education Safeguarding Team consists of three Safeguarding Officers:

School Safeguarding Officers:

Emma Harding (Emma.Harding-Safeguarding@shropshire.gov.uk) 01743 257929

Jane Parsons (Jane.parsons@shropshire.gov.uk) 01743 254676

Early Years Safeguarding Officer:

Charlotte Percival (Charlotte.Percival@shropshire.gov.uk ) 01743 254147

**Safeguarding Training**

The Safeguarding Training offer includes both setting-based development (SBD)and courses facilitated by University Centre Shrewsbury (UCS).

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| **SBD:** Arrange with Emma Harding (Schools), Charlotte Percival (Early Years)  | **UCS:** View dates and book through [CPD catalogue](https://www1.chester.ac.uk/university-centre-shrewsbury/cpd) |
| Raising Awareness in Safeguarding and Protecting Children (Whole setting)  | Raising Awareness in Safeguarding and Protecting Children (Termly) |
| Designated Safeguarding leads update (10+ delegates)  | Schools Newly Appointed Designated Safeguarding Leads Training (Termly) |
|  | Early Years Newly Appointed Designated Safeguarding Leads Training (Termly) |
|  | Schools Designated Safeguarding Lead Refresher Training (Termly) |
|  | Early Years Designated Safeguarding Lead Updates (Termly|) |
|   | Governor (including newly appointed Safeguarding Link Governor) Safeguarding and Child Protection Training (Termly) |
|   | Safeguarding Governor Briefings (Termly)  |
|  | DSL’s Safeguarding Network Meetings. (Termly)  |

**Safeguarding Consultancies**

Safeguarding Officers offer a Safeguarding consultancy which provides a comprehensive audit of school compliance with safeguarding requirements. Schools can choose from a range of options to determine the focus area of the consultancy. Schools can choose from a half day focusing on three areas or a full day covering the full six areas. The focus areas are as follows:

1. Single Central Record (SCR) & Recruitment
2. Training and staff awareness
3. Policy and Procedures
4. Records of concern/incidents
5. Curriculum and pupil/parent safeguarding awareness
6. Governance

To arrange a safeguarding consultancy please contact:

Schools: Emma Harding (Emma.Harding-Safeguarding@shropshire.gov.uk).

Early Years: Charlotte Percival (Charlotte.Percival@shropshire.gov.uk)

**Safeguarding policies audits**

The Local Authority provide template policies for some areas of safeguarding e.g. Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. Supporting documents and template policies can be located on the Shropshire Learning Gateway: <http://www.shropshirelg.net/services/safeguarding/schools-and-early-years/early-years-schools-safeguarding-policies-guidance/>

Please contact the Safeguarding Officers if you have any queries or questions in relation to policies.

**Safeguarding audits**

Section 11 Safeguarding Compliance Audits are requested to be completed by schools annually. A request will be sent out in the Autumn Term and a sample of schools will be selected for return and analysis by the Local Authority.

For information on settings’ responsibilities under Section 11 Children’s Act 2004, please refer to Chapter 2, [Working Together to Safeguard Children](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2).

The Local Authority have also provided a Practice audit template to enable schools to conduct practice case file audits, looking at their practice with children who are subject to Early Help, Child in Need, Child Protection or Looked after Child plans. This can be used by schools for self-auditing and assurance purposes and records should be retained within the school.

Please contact Jane Parsons if you have any queries or questions relating to safeguarding audits.

**Operation Encompass**

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, before the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has been involved in or exposed to domestic abuse. It is a national multi-agency initiative for the safeguarding of children experiencing or exposed to domestic abuse and a preventative measure to try and influence how the effects of the experience may impact on these children as future adults. The scheme complements existing safeguarding procedures.

The purpose of the information sharing is to ensure schools have more information to support safeguarding of children. By knowing that the child has had this experience, the school is in a better position to understand and be supportive of the child’s needs and possible behaviours.

To find out more about Operation Encompass and how it is operating in Shropshire, please visit: <http://www.shropshirelg.net/services/safeguarding/schools-and-early-years/school-operation-encompass/>

Karen Flynn is the Shropshire Council Domestic Abuse Education Co-Ordinator: Karen.flynn@shropshire.gov.uk

**Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)**

The Local Authority Safeguarding Officers represent Education at the monthly MARAC (Multi-agency risk assessment conference) and are responsible for contacting the DSL at the setting the child attends to request information if a MARAC referral has been received in relation to the child’s parent/significant adult.

Please be aware of the Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership [Domestic Abuse Pathway](https://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/local-content/wQzN/domestic-abuse-tools-and-pathways/?b=Shropshire) for further information.

If you have any queries regarding the MARAC process, please contact Jane Parsons.

**Channel Panel**

The Local Authority Safeguarding Officers represent Education at the monthly Channel Panel and are responsible for contacting the DSL at the setting the child attends to request information if a Prevent referral has been received in relation to the child’s parent/significant adult.

For more information and guidance about preventing terrorism and Channel Panel, please be aware of the “Preventing Terrorism” section in the [Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership Child Exploitation Practice Guidance and Protocol](https://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/local-content/4cjN/exploitation-tools-and-pathways/?b=Shropshire).

If you have any queries regarding the Channel process, please contact Jane Parsons.

 **Complaints**

The Local Authority Safeguarding Officers are responsible for investigation of safeguarding complaints reported to Ofsted in line with the LA complaints process. The Safeguarding Officer will always consult with the headteacher as part of an investigation. If you have any queries regarding the complaints process, please contact a member of the Safeguarding Team.