



[North Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership website](#)

Autumn Edition

#### SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR ALL

**Welcome to the autumn edition of the NSSCP newsletter.  
Please share widely within your organisation.  
This newsletter alongside the previous editions are available on  
the NSSCP website linked above.**

### Introducing Michael Richardson

Hi all, I hope this message finds you well. I am delighted to introduce myself as a Delegated Safeguarding Partner (DSP) of the North Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership. As the current Director of Nursing/Deputy Chief Nursing Officer of the NHS Bristol, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire ICB, I am thrilled to be a part of this remarkable team and contribute to our shared vision and objectives.

In my role as DSP, I will be providing strategic oversight and leadership, acting as the senior point of contact for our ICB's Lead Safeguarding Partner (LSP), Shane Devlin, our ICB CEO. Having dedicated many years to the fields of nursing, public health, quality, and safeguarding, I have seen first-hand the incredible impact that robust safeguarding practices can have on both individuals and entire communities. My passion lies in ensuring that vulnerable children and young people within our community receive the highest standards of care and support.

Throughout my career, I have witnessed the transformative power of collaborative efforts. By working together, leveraging our collective expertise, and pooling our resources, I believe we can create a safer and more supportive environment for everyone. The strength of our partnership is evident in our shared goals and values, and it is my sincere hope to contribute my experience and dedication to furthering this important cause.

I am particularly excited about exploring innovative approaches to safeguarding and identifying best practices that can be implemented across our services. Continuous improvement and learning are central to my professional ethos, and I am eager to engage with like-minded individuals who are equally committed to making a positive difference.

Thank you for the warm welcome, and I look forward to actively contributing to the North Somerset Safeguarding Partnership's vision. Please feel free to reach out to me should you have any questions or if there are specific areas where you believe my skills and experience can be of value.

**North Somerset  
Safeguarding  
Children  
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**Safeguarding  
Newsletter**

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October 2025



### SPOTLIGHT BULLETIN PLEASE NOTE!

#### **New Front Door Referral Guidance – Please Read & Action**

To aid the triage process and speed up the Children's Social Care Front Door team's response, a key update has been made to the 'Request for Support' form – now available on the NSSCP website: [Essential contact details for referrals, concerns and support](#)

#### **What's changed?**

Updates are marked in red and explain what to include in the email subject line when submitting your referral.

#### **What to include in your email subject line:**

Clearly state whether your referral is for "Family Wellbeing" or "Children's Social Care".

Include the scaling score (0–10) from your referral. **Example:** Family Wellbeing 4.

Send your completed form to:  
Front Door for Children's Services  
[childrens.frontdoor@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens.frontdoor@n-somerset.gov.uk)

## How to contact The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

If you have a concern or allegation, use the LADO referrals and consultation form found [here](#) to report this.

More information can be found on our website: [Reporting concerns about an adult](#) | [Childrens Safeguarding Partnership](#)

## Mental Health Day

1 in 5 young people in the UK are living with a mental health disorder, but only half receive professional support. [World Mental Health Day 2025](#) | [Mental Health Foundation](#) is on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025 and this year's theme is 'access to services - mental health in catastrophes and emergencies'. The theme highlights the importance of people being able to protect their mental health in times of global instability.

[Stem4 have released a set of resources](#) designed to help schools, youth groups, and young people take part in Youth Mental Health Day and start conversations that matter. Each resource supports open dialogue, awareness, and action around youth mental health.

## Safeguarding Adults' Board

[Adult Safeguarding Board](#)



## Children and Young Person's Sexual Violence Advisers – Safe Link

A Children and Young Person's Sexual Violence Adviser (CYPSVA) work with anyone who is under 18 who has experienced sexual violence and will help the child to get the support they need. [CYPSVA Flyer](#)

## Stop Adult Abuse Week

FREE Workshops will be available each lunch time. The theme this year is prevention: act before abuse.

Save the date: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

[Buy tickets – Safeguarding Adults Partnerships in Avon & Somerset](#)

## Children's Centres rebranding to Family Hubs!

North Somerset Children's Centres are currently in the process of rebranding to 'Family Hub North Somerset'. The Family Hub model will offer services and signposting for families with children aged 0-19 (up to 25 with SEND).

The team are currently rebranding social media platforms, posters as well as using a new logo! The Family Hub model will also include a more effective digital offer so keep an eye out for more updates coming in future!

When looking for North Somerset Children's Centres in the future, this will now be known as 'Family Hub North Somerset'. The rebranding is currently just taking place digitally and staff will be kept up to date with the latest news!

The team have also had Family Hub teams backgrounds and an email signature designed to show the new branding.

This rebrand will bring an exciting and new look to our promotional materials and more details will be shared on the team's social media platforms soon, keep up to date by following below!

[Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

## Family Hubs Update: Online Calendar + Social Refresh!

The Family Hubs team have launched a new **online google calendar** on their website: [here](#)

This calendar shows all the groups and activities happening in the centres from September to December 2025.

## Multi-Agency Workforce Development/CPD

For the latest updates, please keep checking the NSSCP page: [Training events](#)

iLearn Together is available to access here: [iLearn Together](#)

If you experience any issues or have any queries, please contact the iLearn team: [ilearn@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:ilearn@n-somerset.gov.uk)

Date	Title	Course leader	Time	Venue
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**October**

Monday 20 October 2025	<b>Strengths and needs toolkit training</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 1.30pm	Vision North Somerset
Tuesday 21 October 2025	<b>Inter-agency child protection - advanced level 3</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 4.30pm	For All Healthy Living Centre
Wednesday 22 October 2025	<b>Understanding children's substance use - secondary school</b>	Hannah Collins	3.45pm to 5.30pm	Online

**November**

Monday 3 November 2025	<b>Understanding the impact of domestic abuse on children</b>	Next Link	12.30pm to 4.30pm	Vision North Somerset
Tuesday 4 November 2025	<b>Inter-agency child protection - advanced - update</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 12.30pm	Online
Wednesday 5 November 2025	<b>Using the early help strengths and needs toolkit with families</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 1pm	For All Healthy Living Centre
Thursday 6 November 2025	<b>Inter-agency child protection - intermediate - level 2</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 3pm	Castle Batch Children's Centre
Monday 10 November 2025	<b>Prevent awareness</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 11am	For All Healthy Living Centre
Tuesday 11 November 2025	<b>Understanding domestic abuse</b>	Next Link	9.30am to 4.30pm	For All Healthy Living Centre
Wednesday 12 November 2025	<b>Advanced drugs training</b>	Ellen Mutch	1.30pm to 4pm	Oldmixon Family Centre
Monday 24 November 2025	<b>Understanding domestic abuse - stalking and harassment</b>	Next Link	9.30am to 1.30pm	Vision North Somerset
Tuesday 25 November 2025	<b>Inter-agency child protection - advanced level 3</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 4.30pm	For All Healthy Living Centre
Tuesday 25 November 2025	<b>LADO - managing allegations against professionals</b>	LADO Officer	10.30am to 11.30am	Online

**December**

Wednesday 3 December 2025	<b>Legal drugs training</b>	Ellen Mutch	1.30pm to 4pm	Oldmixon Family Centre
Friday 5 December 2025	<b>The cumulative impact of neglect on children</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 4.30pm	Portishead Children's Centre
Tuesday 9 December 2025	<b>Inter-agency child protection - advanced - update</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 12.30pm	Online
Thursday 11 December 2025	<b>Inter-agency child protection - basic awareness - level 1</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 12.30pm	Castle Batch Children's Centre
Tuesday 16 December 2025	<b>Inter-agency child protection - advanced level 3</b>	Ellen Mutch	9.30am to 4.30pm	Vision North Somerset

## The links between poverty and domestic abuse in child protection

Community Care has published an [article](#) outlining findings from the 'rethinking domestic abuse in child protection' ([RDAC](#)) research project.

The article highlights that there is a 'social gradient' in children's chances of going into care: those in the poorest areas of England were over ten times more likely to be looked after than those in the most affluent areas, and that domestic abuse was an important factor in this; yet, the system often failed to recognise and examine how inequalities shaped families' experiences and needs.

## Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 – Key Changes

- You can see a summary of all the changes [here](#).

## Prevent Week 2025

There are many training and awareness opportunities available during the prevent week of action commencing 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

## The new Joint Targeted Area Inspection theme

The new Joint Targeted Area Inspection Theme is CSA. The partnership will be following the recommendations outlined in the 'I Wanted Them All to Notice' paper and a think tank will be taking place in October. The insights from the paper offer a strong foundation for shaping a collaborative approach.

[The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel - I wanted them all to notice](#)

## Smartphones and their impact on children's mental health

Research shows that social media and the messages children receive during their formative years can shape their beliefs about themselves and the world around them.

The Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMH) has [published a film](#) exploring some of the potential dangers of smartphones and social media on children's mental health and share practical advice on how to support children's wellbeing.

The film features children discussing their own experiences, plus contributions from the PAPAYA charity, a secondary school headteacher and a primary school headteacher, offering valuable insights from both clinical and educational perspectives.

## How Ofsted looks at AI during inspection and regulation

Ofsted has released a statement on how they will view the use of AI in settings they are inspecting. Starting from a position of support for the use of AI where it improves the education and care of children, Ofsted will consider the impact of AI on outcomes and how risks such as data protection and accuracy are managed. Within this there will be consideration of how individuals and settings are safeguarded.

Statement: [How Ofsted looks at AI during inspection and regulation - GOV.UK](#)