

Identifying and responding to child sexual abuse – a course for Designated Safeguarding Leads

One day, or two half-days



£850 + VAT for 6 to 25 participants, but can be tailored according to organisational requirements

Please note: There is an increased fee to deliver this course face-to-face.

About the course

This course provides an engaging overview of the key information Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) in schools and colleges need to understand to identify and respond to cases of child sexual abuse. With a focus on intra-familial child sexual abuse and harmful sexual behaviour involving peers, it has been designed so that participants can confidently cascade learning in their own education setting: resources including case studies, trainer notes and presentation materials will be provided to equip them to do this.

The course can be tailored to DSLs in primary schools, or those in secondary schools and colleges.

What you can expect to learn

- A better understanding of:
 - the scale and nature of child sexual abuse, with particular focus on intra-familial child sexual abuse and harmful sexual behaviour involving peers
 - how the impact of child sexual abuse presents in children and young people, with particular focus on how it may present in an education environment
 - how education professionals can build a picture of their concerns of child sexual abuse, and when a referral to children's services should be made
 - how children communicate their experiences of sexual abuse, and the role that education professionals can play in helping them do this.
- Greater confidence in identifying and responding to concerns of intra-familial child sexual abuse.
- Greater confidence in identifying and responding to harmful sexual behaviour between peers.
- Improved ability to identify the potential signs and indicators of sexual abuse and sexually abusive behaviour.

Additional resources

- ‘Cascading packs’ to equip participants with the materials to disseminate the information to their wider staff teams, through their school staff development or INSET programme.
- PowerPoint slides for attendees to refer back to and keep for reflection.
- A digital copy of *Signs and indicators: A template for identifying and responding to concerns of child sexual abuse*.
- A digital copy of *Communicating with children: A guide for those working with children who have or may have been sexually abused*.
- A digital copy of *Supporting parents and carers: A guide for those working with families affected by child sexual abuse*.
- A list of useful resources, reports, and research to support your work and ongoing learning.
- References and resources list.

What past attendees said about this course

“All DSLs should have the training and this can then be shared with all school staff. It is an area we need to feel confident in managing so we can pass that confidence on to our staff team.”

Designated Safeguarding Lead

“I think it will help give all staff confidence that they can deal with child sexual abuse and respond to all parties in an appropriate manner.”

Designated Safeguarding Lead

“It actually exceeded my expectations. I found the day to be practical and have plenty of thoughts to take away and use back at school. I felt it was good to just focus on this area specifically as it is so important and not enough is out there for primary schools.”

Designated Safeguarding Lead (primary school)

