



SAFEGUARDING

OUR BI-MONTHLY SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

MARCH - APRIL 2026 • SAFEGUARDING IN PRACTICE



STAYING CURIOUS & CONNECTED!

As we move into spring, safeguarding remains everyone's responsibility.

While emerging risks and national headlines often capture attention, the majority of safeguarding concerns are identified through everyday observations, conversations and professional curiosity.

This edition focuses on strengthening safeguarding in daily practice — staying connected to learners, noticing small changes, and sharing concerns early.

Safeguarding is not about being certain. It is about being curious.

PROFESSIONAL CURIOSITY IN ACTION

Professional curiosity means:

- Asking respectful questions when something doesn't feel right
- Exploring inconsistencies in a supportive way
- Not accepting "surface" explanations too quickly
- Being open to the possibility that there may be more going on

It can be as simple as:

- "I've noticed you seem quieter than usual — is everything okay?"
- "You've been late a few times recently — is there anything we can support you with?"

Small conversations can prevent larger concerns.

NOTICE THE SMALL CHANGES

Safeguarding concerns rarely begin with a major disclosure.

They often start with subtle changes such as:

- Withdrawal or low mood
- Reduced engagement or motivation
- Sudden changes in peer groups
- Increased secrecy around phones
- Persistent lateness or absence
- Changes in personal presentation

Individually, these may not seem significant. Together, they may tell a story.

If in doubt - share the concern with your Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

IMPORTANT INFO

If you're concerned about a loved one or yourself please contact one of the helplines and support groups on page 3.





STAYING CONNECTED TO LEARNERS

Positive, consistent relationships are one of the strongest protective factors in safeguarding.

When learners feel heard and supported, they are more likely to speak up.

In practice, this means:

- Scheduling regular check-ins
- Maintaining visibility in both classroom and workplace settings
- Encouraging open discussions around wellbeing
- Reminding learners how to report concerns

For apprentices and those in employment settings, reduced contact can increase vulnerability. Maintaining regular communication is essential.

Connection builds trust. Trust enables disclosure.

KEY MESSAGE FOR MARCH-APRIL

Safeguarding is not always visible or urgent. Often, it is quiet and gradual.



Stay curious.
Stay connected.
Share early.

INFORMATION SHARING & SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

No concern is too small to share. If something causes uncertainty, it should be discussed.

When there is risk of harm, safeguarding considerations take priority. Guidance on safe and lawful information sharing is available from the Information Commissioner's Office.

Remember:

- You do not need to investigate
- You do not need to be certain
- You do need to report

Safeguarding works best when concerns are shared early, recorded clearly, and acted upon appropriately.



FURTHER SUPPORT & INFORMATION

UK Safer Internet Centre

Guidance on online safety, cyberbullying, and reporting harmful content.

NSPCC Helpline

Support for concerns about children or families:
0808 8005000

Childline

Support for children and young people:
0800 1111

CEOP (Child Exploitation & Online Protection)

Report online sexual abuse or grooming.

Modern Slavery & Exploitation Helpline

For concerns around forced labour, trafficking or exploitation:
0800 0121700

National Domestic Abuse Helpline

24/7 confidential support:
0808 2000247

Samaritans

Mental health & crisis support:
116 123

ICO – Information Sharing Guidance

Support for safe, lawful sharing of safeguarding information.

9 PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

- Age
- Disability
- Gender Reassignment
- Marriage & Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy & Maternity
- Race
- Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation

PREVENT DUTY

The Prevent Duty is part of the government strategy to reduce the risk of Extremism, Terrorism and Radicalisation.

View our Prevent Leaflet

Report possible terrorist activity online If you are concerned about someone or see anything suspicious call the local police or the police anti-terrorist hotline on **0800 789321**.

BRITISH VALUES

British Values are defined as:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Contact Steadfast Training's Safeguarding team on **01775 513050** or email **safe-guarding@steadfasttraining.co.uk**

If you wish to raise an issue of safeguarding for a learner or individual related to Steadfast Training Ltd in any way, please contact the centre immediately on: **0845 2232401**.

[Report a Safeguarding Issue](#)



For more information on anything covered in the newsletter, feedback or ideas for the next issue, please contact us on marketing@steadfasttraining.co.uk.