



Well here we are for another Autumn term and we hope that you have all had a wonderful summer break. We have had a few changes within Wokingham Virtual School which this briefing will signpost to you.

Our website continues to be a place where you will find a wealth of information including our training offer for schools. If you are new to the borough or if you are new to the role of DT or DSL our training offer can be found [here](#). For those that need a reminder our website can be found [here](#).

Whats On

- ★ Tuesday 10 September 2024 - 15:30 - 16:30 Designated Teacher and ePEP Training Online via Teams
- ★ Wednesday 11 September 2024 - 09:30 - 11:45 Designated Person for Child Protection in Education Training (in person) Designated Leads & Deputies for child protection who are new in the role. Book here: <https://wsh.wokingham.gov.uk/form/book-early-years-training>
- ★ Thursday 19 September 2024 - 15:30 - 17:00 CareLeaders Online Training: Andy Smith - more than an ACE score Members only. Online via portal.
- ★ Tuesday 24 September 2024 - 15:30 - 17:00 ATV Training: PACE in Education Part 1 Online via Teams
- ★ Tuesday 8 October 2024 - 15:30 - 17:00 ATV Training:



On **Tuesday 10th September** we are running our September ePEP and Designated teacher training. If you are a Designated Teacher for STATUTORY AGED children we would strongly encourage you to attend this training. Post-16/UASC training will be running on other dates.

A PEP is a **statutory requirement** to ensure that a record is maintained regarding the child's educational progress and thus it forms an integral part of the child's overall care plan.

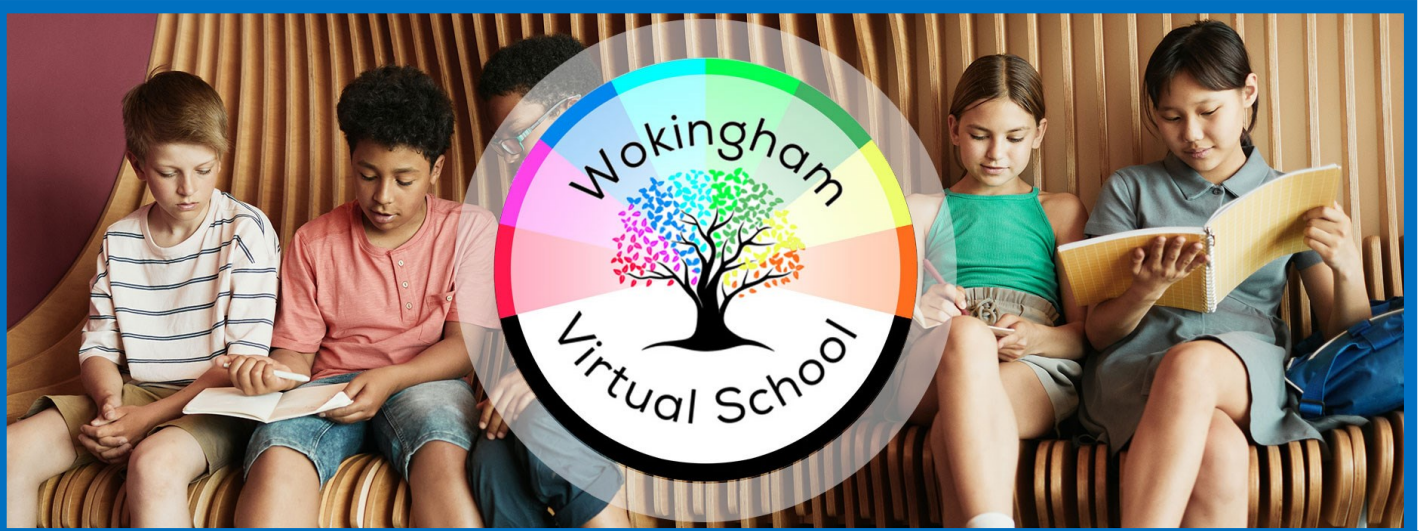
We have made many changes to ePEP over the summer to try to capture the child's voice in a more succinct way but also to try and make the process more slim lined for our Designated Teachers.

The training is virtual and we look forward to welcoming new and 'old' faces on Tuesday 10th September at 3.30pm. If you are unable to attend but would like to attend training please contact Jenny.

Jenny.Lucas@wokingham.gov.uk

"EVERY MOMENT IS A FRESH BEGINNING."

T. S. ELIOT



Keeping Children Safe in Education for September 2024



The latest version of Keeping Children Safe in Education has now been published. You can download it here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

There are two changes areas to note that have changed from the 'for information' version, published in May 2024:

Safer Recruitment for individuals who have lived or worked outside the UK

The following line has been removed from paragraph 286: 'applicants [who have lived or worked outside the UK] can also contact the UK Centre for Professional Qualifications who will signpost them to the appropriate EEA regulatory body'.

This has been removed because the 'UK Centre for Professional Qualifications' no longer provide an advisory service on behalf of the UK Government in regard to regulated professions and recognition of professional qualifications.

Definition of Safeguarding

The definition of safeguarding has been updated to 'reflect' the changes to the definition in Working Together to Safeguard Children that was updated in December 2023.

Keeping Children Safe in Education (2024) Definition

The new definition in KCSIE (2024) paragraph 3 is as follows (new wording in bold):

"Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as:

- **providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge**
- protecting children from maltreatment, **whether that is within or outside the home, including online**
- preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes"



KCSIE September 2024 cntd..



Working Together to Safeguarding Children

Definition

For information, the full definition in Working Together to Safeguard Children (December 2023) is as follows (wording not used in KCSIE is struck out):

"Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as:

- providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment, whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- promoting the upbringing of children with their birth parents, or otherwise their family network⁴ through a kinship care arrangement, whenever possible and where this is in the best interests of the children

- *taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes in line with the outcomes set out in the Children's Social Care National Framework"*

Gender questioning children

This section is still under review and schools should ensure they are using the guidance on (KCSIE 2024) page 55

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EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

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**The Association
for Child and Adolescent
Mental Health**

In July, the ACAMH released a blog that explores the mental health consequences of mental health impacts of school anxiety and emotional based school avoidance (EBSA).
For more information on this please click [here](#).



Too little, too late: A multi-agency response to identifying and tackling neglect

Neglect is the form of abuse most often listed as the initial category of abuse on child protection plans in England.¹ The NSPCC report explores the scale of the problem and examines the barriers and challenges that professionals face when identifying and tackling neglect.

To read the full report, please click [here](#).



New Kinship report highlights needs of kinship children are overlooked and ignored

Kinship's new report *Forgotten: Support for kinship children's education and mental health* highlights that children being raised by relatives or family friends in kinship care are often suffering from life-changing trauma with no support. Two key findings were:



Only 54%

of children in kinship care were getting the support the need in education.



31%

of children in kinship care had diagnosed or suspected social, emotional and mental health needs.

To read the full report please click [here](#).

Don't forget the virtual school are here to assist you should you require any support. You can email us at the following addresses and we promise we will respond within 24 hours.



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