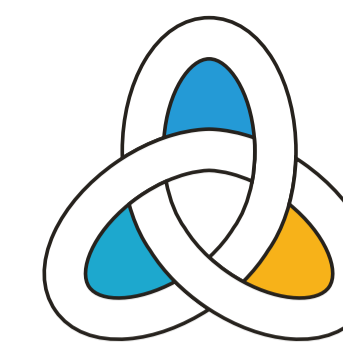


safenews



LEARNING TOGETHER
CORNWALL EDUCATION LEARNING TRUST

JUNE 2024

Bodmin College | Brannel School | Carclaze CP School | Fowey Primary School | Lostwithiel Primary School | Luxulyan School | Mevagissey Primary School | Mount Charles School | Newquay Junior Academy
Newquay Primary Academy | Newquay Tretherras School | Penrice Academy | Poltair School | Pondhu Primary School | Port Isaac Community Primary School | St Mewan CP School



Safeguarding vision at CELT -

- Safeguarding is the golden thread through CELT
- 'it could happen here'
- Ensure that every pupil and young person are heard
- Zero tolerance for discrimination
- Empowerment of our staff
- Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP
ACCOUNTABILITY
CARE SAFEGUARDING EMPOWER
STRENGTHEN IMPROVE
ENABLE EVERYONE VULNERABLE
RESPONSIBILITY

EMPOWERMENT • PREVENTION • PROTECTION • PROPORTIONALITY • PARTNERSHIP • ACCOUNTABILITY

Children in the court system



Children and young people can be involved in the courts in several ways. Decisions made by the courts may have life-changing results.

Types of court

In England and Wales there are two types of courts that children and young people are most likely to be involved with: the criminal courts and the family (civil) courts. (There are different courts / laws in Scotland and Northern Ireland.)

Criminal courts

Criminal courts handle cases where individuals are accused of breaking the law, such as robbery, murder and driving offences. Criminal charges against children aged between 10 and 17 are handled by the youth courts. Youth courts are less formal than Crown or Magistrates' courts. Theft, anti-social behaviour and drug offences are handled in the youth courts, but more serious offences will be passed to the Crown Court.

Family courts

Family courts are part of the civil court system but less formal and handle cases regarding divorce, childcare proceedings and domestic abuse. Family court judges can use their discretion to make decisions that are in the best interests of the child when making a ruling.

Childcare proceedings

There are two types of childcare proceedings:

- Public law - where the local authority has made an application to court because of concerns about the care that a child is receiving. In these cases, there should be an allocated social worker and it is likely that

there will be ongoing involvement from the local authority once the court order is made.

- Private law - where a person has gone to court to resolve an issue within their private lives and the court has made an order relating to a child, e.g., if parents cannot agree about custody arrangements.

Impact on children and young people The experience of being involved in a court case can differ from one child to the next, regardless of whether they are the victim, the defendant, a witness or are incidentally involved.

Involvement with the courts can:

- be stressful;
- create feelings of loss of control;
- significantly change a child's life;
- create unanswered questions;
- cause or entrench conflict within families;
- put individuals at personal risk;
- lead to absence from education.

Supporting children and young people

Children and young people may require emotional support, may need plans in place to protect them from others due to their involvement in a court case and/or may need a regular routine to counter the disruption in their home lives.

It's important to talk with children/young people and their parents or carers to ensure you have the full story about what is going on in their lives. Only then can you ensure they get the right support when they need it. Creating spaces in settings where children and young people feel safe and able to speak about how they feel can encourage children to seek help when they need it.

Family members in prison

Children and young people with a parent or family member in prison are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health.

An estimated 312,000 children every year have a parent sent to prison. 10,000 children visit public prisons every week. The National Information Centre on Children of Offenders (NICCO)

Despite the numbers, there is no formal record of who these children are and whether they are receiving support, often meaning that they are hidden and struggling alone.

Children with parents in prison have at least double the risk of mental health problems in comparison to their peers and three times the risk of antisocial behaviour. The parent, not the child has committed the crime, yet the lives of many families are dominated by the effect of imprisonment, and they have no choice but to live with the consequences. What is the impact on children and young people? It's important to find out what might they have seen, heard and / or been told?

- To protect children, adults may choose to lie to them, saying that their family member is 'working away' or "on holiday".
- They may isolate themselves due to embarrassment or become isolated and judged by others for an offence they did not commit.
- They may lose regular contact or any contact with a person who held a significant role in their life.
- The family income may be affected when a parent or family member is sent to prison.

This may mean the child / young person experiences:

- poor physical and mental health;
- financial difficulties and poverty;
- anger and confusion about being lied to;
- fears for the person in prison, especially if the prison is a long way from home;
- frightening experiences of visiting prison;
- lack of support networks, bullying;
- significant trauma if they witnessed the arrest or the criminal activity that led to it;
- fear of being stigmatised by the 'prisoner'

label;

- feelings of significant loss or rejection;
- absence from education.

How can we support them?

Children and young people with a family member in prison should be recognised as a group with unique needs. To support those affected, we must find out what they have been told and understand the issues they face.

- Discuss the child's or young person's needs with them and their carers. Find out how things have changed for them. Focus on their needs, not the offence.
- Maintain a non-judgmental attitude.
- Create safe spaces where children and young people feel confident to speak about their feelings and know where they can get support.
- Allow space and time for the child or young person to deal with their emotions.
- Let the child or young person know they are not alone and that it is not their fault.
- Consider involving children and young people in peer support groups.
- Check in regularly as needs may change.



Focus on Attendance Registers

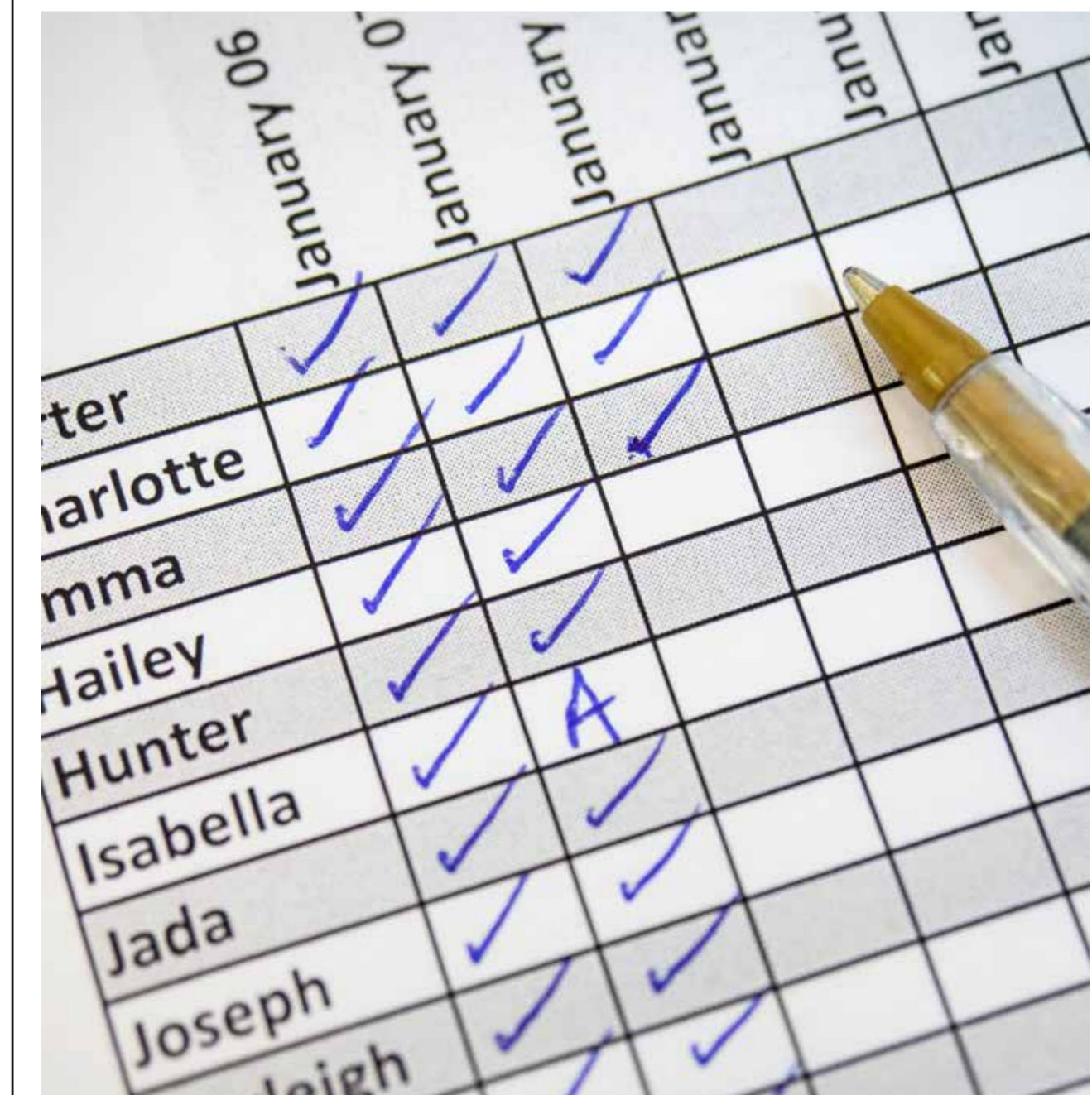
CELT regards good pupil attendance as the key factor in underpinning welfare and progress. As part of our safeguarding training, it is worth re-emphasising the importance of taking accurate registers in every lesson as part of school's safeguarding requirement. Only the morning and afternoon registration are legally required, but any absenteeism from individual lessons could potentially indicate a safeguarding issue above and beyond the academic concerns of missing classes.

What we do to follow up on any absence is key, we need to:

- Find out the reason
- Identify if the absence is approved or not
- Identify the correct code to use on the electronic register to be submitted to the school census
- Make sure appropriate safeguarding action is taken if necessary

Accurate registration and record keeping ensures that staff and governors are able to work together with our young people, parents, other professionals and agencies, to ensure that students are encouraged and supported to develop good attendance habits and receive support when required.

Children who are persistently late or absent from school frequently develop large gaps in their learning which will impact on their progress and their ability to meet age related learning expectations. A pupil whose attendance drops to 90% each year will, over their time at school, miss just over 4 half-terms of learning or 19 full school days in each year



Awareness Days in June

Pride Month

June is Pride month - a month dedicated to celebrating LGBTQ+ communities all around the world. Pride is a celebration of people coming together in love and friendship, to show how far LGBTQ+ rights have come, and how in some places there's still work to be done.

Pride is celebrated in the month of June, as that was the month when the Stonewall riots took place. The Stonewall riots were important protests that took place in 1969 in the US, that changed gay rights for a lot of people in America and around the world.

DSLs across the Trust

It's normal to feel overwhelmed and confused if a child reveals they're being abused. It's a challenging subject that can be both difficult to accept and talk about. However, you must be aware of your safeguarding information sharing (or disclosure) responsibilities so you can take the correct course of action to ensure the safety of the child or young person.

Although the abuse could be kept a secret out of fear, children experiencing distress may speak to you as they find you trustworthy and deem the school a safe place. It's also not unusual for them to choose particular staff members that they feel have less authority or are less intimidating. Remember we are all Emotionally Available Adults to our students.

Regardless of your role, if a child approaches you to indicate abuse or disclose harm, your role is to recognise and refer the abuse - not to investigate. Please speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team

Trust Safeguarding Lead	Amy Daniels	adaniels@celtrust.org
Safeguarding Trustee	John Simeons	JSimeons@gov.celtrust.org

School	DSL	Email Address
Bodmin	Kym O'Mara Sue Gilbert (Operational)	dsl@bodmincollege.co.uk
Brannel	John Doherty	dsl@brannel.com
Carclaze	Simon Pollard	dsl@car.celtrust.org
Fowey	Liz Measom	dsl@fow.celtrust.org
Lostwithiel	Elaine Badger	dsl@los.celtrust.org
Luxulyan	Nathan Cooper	dsl@lux.celtrust.org
Mevagissey	Ben Ringrose	dsl@mev.celtrust.org
Mount Charles	Rachel Nile	dsl@mcs.celtrust.org
Newquay Junior	Tania Findlay	dsl@nja.celtrust.org
Newquay Primary	Michelle Hall	dsl@npa.celtrust.org
Newquay Tretherras	Jacqui McGlynn Laura Thomas (operational)	dsl@tretherras.net
Penrice	Abby McDonald	dsl@penrice.org.uk
Poltair	Heidi Spurgeon	dsl@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk
Pondhu	Rachel Clift	dsl@pon.celtrust.org
Port Isaac	Emma Williams	head@port-isaac.cornwall.sch.uk
St Mewan	Mark Lloyd	dsl@stm.celtrust.org
CELT Hub	Andy Egford	dsl@hub.celtrust.org

Modern Slavery and Trafficking

TRAINING
THIS MONTH

Modern slavery is mostly a hidden crime, and to get a true picture of its prevalence is challenging. It is an umbrella term and includes human trafficking.

Definition

Modern slavery is where victims are forced, threatened or deceived, into situations of subjugation, degradation and control and includes human trafficking which is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception to exploit them for profit.

Adapted from the Home Office and the UN

Trafficking does not necessarily involve travel to another country or even long distance nationally. A child can be trafficked within their local area, especially for [child sexual exploitation](#) and [child criminal exploitation](#) (including [county lines](#)). Exploitation can also include forced labour, domestic servitude, or removal of a person's organs.

Additional vulnerabilities

Anyone can be vulnerable to modern slavery and/or being trafficked, however, there are some children that we know are more likely to become victims of this abuse than others, including:

- refugees and migrant children;
- children in care;
- children who are not in the care of their parents/legal guardians;
- those with links to criminal networks;
- those missing from home and/or education;
- children with additional needs;
- excluded children;
- children with chaotic home lives;
- children living in poverty;
- children living with substance misuse.

Spot the signs

Many of the signs are like those we see with any abusive situation; however, some specific considerations relate to children who:

- are in situations where you do not know who holds parental responsibility (see also private fostering);
- are missing from education and/or home;
- have unbelievable or surprising accounts of how they are in the country;
- have parents working without pay;
- are involved in inappropriate work;
- display multiple or repeated injuries;
- have tattoos or other marks indicating 'ownership';
- distrust authority;
- show recurring symptoms of poor physical, sexual and emotional health;
- multiple sexually transmitted infections, miscarriages/terminations
- are not registered with a school or a GP practice;
- do not have any documents (or have falsified documents);
- have money or goods, including mobile phones, drugs and alcohol, that they cannot account for;
- are involved in criminal activity;
- spend a lot of time doing household chores, rarely leave their house, and have no time for play;
- display indicators of child exploitation.

What to do

- If you have concerns, follow your safeguarding procedures and speak to your designated safeguarding lead.
- A referral may need to be made to children's social care or the police who will assess the need for a referral to the National Referral Mechanism.