

Annex C: Criteria for effective safeguarding training

1. Training is designed for staff caring for 0–5-year-olds and is appropriate to the age of the children being cared for.
2. The safeguarding training for all practitioners must cover the following areas:
 - What is meant by the term safeguarding.
 - The main categories of abuse, harm and neglect.
 - The factors, situation and actions that could lead or contribute to abuse, harm or neglect.
 - How to work in ways that safeguard children from abuse, harm and neglect.
 - How to identify signs of possible abuse, harm and neglect at the earliest opportunity.

These may include:

- Significant changes in children's behaviour.
 - A decline in children's general well-being.
 - Unexplained bruising, marks or signs of possible abuse or neglect.
 - Concerning comments or behaviour from children.
 - Inappropriate behaviour from practitioners, or any other person working with the children. This could include inappropriate sexual comments; excessive one-to one attention beyond what is required through their role; or inappropriate sharing of images.
 - Any reasons to suspect neglect or abuse outside the setting, for example in the child's home or that a child may experience emotional abuse or physical abuse because of witnessing domestic abuse or coercive control or that a girl may have been subjected to (or is at risk of) female genital mutilation.
- How to respond, record and effectively refer concerns or allegations related to safeguarding in a timely and appropriate way.
 - The setting's safeguarding policy and procedures.
 - Legislation, national policies, codes of conduct and professional practice in relation to safeguarding.
 - Roles and responsibilities of practitioners and other relevant professionals involved in safeguarding.
3. Training for the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) should take account of any advice from the local safeguarding partners or local authority on appropriate training courses. In addition to the areas set out in paragraph 2, training for the DSL must cover the elements listed below:
 - How to build a safe organisational culture.
 - How to ensure safe recruitment.
 - How to develop and implement safeguarding policies and procedures.
 - If applicable, how to support and work with other practitioners to safeguard children.
 - Local child protection procedures and how to liaise with local statutory children's services agencies and with the local safeguarding partners to safeguard children.

- How to refer and escalate concerns (including as described at paragraph 3.9 of the EYFS).
- How to manage and monitor allegations of abuse against other staff.
- How to ensure internet safety.

4. The Department's early years safeguarding training package can be accessed via the following page: [Early years foundation stage \(EYFS\) statutory framework - GOV.UK.](#)