



LEARNING BULLETIN

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Hello! Welcome to the first edition of our monthly Learning & Development Bulletin.

Each month we shall bring to you a synopsis of current research, articles, and guidance, along with examples of good practise to enhance the role you play in Safeguarding.

We will also share a resource spotlight, and a safeguarding toolbox tip of the month.

We hope you find them useful!

This bulletin is designed to keep learning & development bite sized and relevant. We welcome feedback, suggestions or contributions for future editions—particularly anything you've found helpful in your own practise. If you would like to contribute, please do get in touch using the email address below—

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Toolbox Tip



This month's useful takeaway came from the Risks Outside the Home training delivered by Helen Grey (Lights on Learning).

The Empty Chair Technique which some of you may already use.

It's a simple but effective reflective tool that invites someone to engage in an imagined conversation with another person (or themselves), using an empty chair as a stand-in. Useful in both adult and child contexts, particularly when working therapeutically or reflectively.

Engaging Fathers- Safeguarding



The Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership has produced a concise One-Minute Guide on Engaging Fathers in Safeguarding. (Note: it takes a bit longer than a minute to read—but it's worth it!).

The guide covers both core principles (such as Getting in Early, Paying Attention, and Being Reliable) and practical tips to improve father engagement in safeguarding work. These insights are valuable across all sectors and can be adapted into everyday practice whenever and however you engage with Fathers. Definitely worth a read.

Safeguarding Neurodivergent Individuals– Spiritual Abuse

This thought-provoking piece from [Neurodiverse Connection](#) explores a lesser discussed but increasingly relevant safeguarding concern: spiritual abuse in relation to some neurodivergent individuals.

The article highlights the value of spiritual connection—offering meaning, belonging, and community—while raising awareness of potential risks where these needs are exploited. It's especially useful for those supporting neurodivergent individuals and includes guidance on recognising both red flags and green flags.



NSPCC 'Learning' Podcast

Resource Spotlight

The [NSPCC Learning Podcast](#) is a rich and practical resource for anyone working in safeguarding. With over 70 episodes, each one explores a topical child protection issue—featuring both NSPCC experts and voices from the wider sector. Click below for a listen!

Embedding Learning in Social Work Teams

This frontline insight from North East Lincolnshire highlights a multi-agency approach to [embedding learning in social work](#) teams. The focus is on building a culture of continuous improvement through stronger information sharing and reflection.

It's especially relevant for colleagues working in rural or coastal areas, where themes often mirror those in smaller or more isolated communities—such as our own.

Safeguarding in Higher Education Network

For those working in or with higher education, a new UK national initiative could be of interest. Launched in September 2024, the [Safeguarding in Higher Education Network](#)—supported by the Ann Craft Trust and co-chaired by the Universities of Nottingham and Westminster—aims to support collaboration, share best practice, and address and highlight new safeguarding expectations across higher education settings across the United Kingdom

