

## Safeguarding and Prevent Newsletter January 2024

The newsletter is designed to keep you up to date with current information in respect of safeguarding and Prevent.

### This month's topics are:

Grooming

Staying safe online

Martyn's Law

Some of the topics and content in this newsletter may only be specifically relevant to particular sectors, however, we have tried to include information relevant and useful for all the learners and employers we work with.



## ELA'S WELLBEING TEAM

### Your Trainer, Assessor or Portfolio Coach

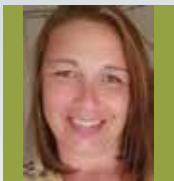
Each member of ELA's learning delivery and support team is trained and duty-bound to report all disclosures within 1 hour of receiving them. If you do not feel safe or are worried about yourself, someone else or something, you must speak to someone that you trust. Our team are here to help. Please contact your trainer, assessor, portfolio coach, any one of the people below or simply email [safe@ela-training.co.uk](mailto:safe@ela-training.co.uk) with your concern.



**Ali Khan**

ali@ela-training.co.uk  
07832 328587

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and has responsibility for implementing the ELA Training Services Safeguarding Policy and for reporting any allegations of abuse and concerns that occur to the relevant authorities. The role of Designated Safeguarding Lead currently includes the responsibilities of Prevent Lead and Data Protection Lead. Ali holds a Level 3 Certificate in Safeguarding and Level 2 in Mental Health First Aid.



**Cheryl Head**

cheryl@ela-training.co.uk  
07483 318425



**Wendy Johnson**

Wendy@ela-training.co.uk  
07944365433

Designated Deputy Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) are responsible for recording and reporting any allegations of abuse and concerns that occur to the relevant authorities (deputising in the absence of the DSL). Wendy is qualified as an Advanced Designated Safeguarding Lead at Level 4 and Cheryl is qualified as a Designated Safeguarding Lead at Level 3.



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## SAFEGUARDING:

### ATTENTION FURTHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS & EARLY YEARS PROVISIONS!

Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in school and colleges According to TES research, 58 per cent of school/college staff believe that there has been an increase in safeguarding concerns since the pandemic. 78 per cent claim that most incidents happen online or on social media, outside of school hours. These include an increasing number of child-on-child abuse cases and incidents of sexual harassment.

[https://www.tes.com/for-schools/blog/article/research-finds-growing-concerns-about-safety-schools?utm\\_campaign=DS62235-KCSIE-2022&utm\\_source=pdf&utm\\_medium=link](https://www.tes.com/for-schools/blog/article/research-finds-growing-concerns-about-safety-schools?utm_campaign=DS62235-KCSIE-2022&utm_source=pdf&utm_medium=link)

**The update from KCSIE states that:**

#### Filters and monitoring

Paragraph 141 now includes Southwest Grid for Learning's tool (<http://testfiltering.com/>) to: 'check whether a school or college's filtering provider is signed up to relevant lists (CSA content, Sexual Content, Terrorist content Your Internet Connection Blocks Child Abuse & Terrorist Content).

#### Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in school and colleges

Given the prevalence of concerns around sexual violence and harassment, as highlighted by last year's Ofsted investigations, all school staff are advised to read this new section in KCSIE.

A useful link to London Grid for Learning's Undressed resource below, provides advice on teaching students about the dangers of getting naked online.

<https://undressed.lgfl.net/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-digital-and-technology-standards-in-schools-and-colleges/filtering-and-monitoring-standards-for-schools-and-colleges>



## WHAT IS ADULT GROOMING?

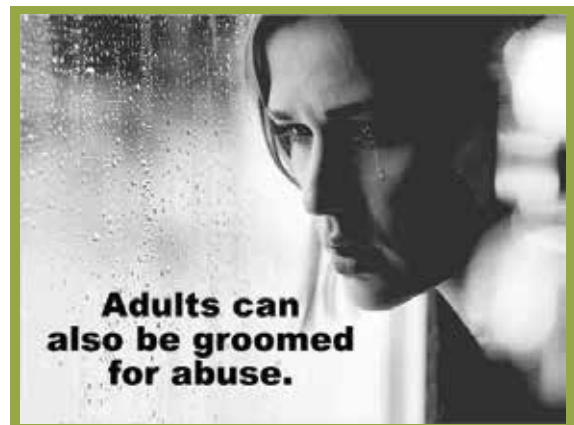
Grooming is a form of abuse. It involves manipulating someone until they are isolated, dependent, and more vulnerable to exploitation.

It is a gradual process. The abuser picks their target, builds up trust, and the actual abuse, which is usually sexual or financial, does not come until much later.

It often starts with friendship. The groomer will look for ways to gain their target’s trust, often with gifts or promises. Eventually they will start to ask for something in return, and this eventually leads to abuse. Because groomers work to befriend their victims, some organisations refer to it as “mate crime”.

Grooming can happen in person, or it can happen online. Online grooming might be referred to as “catfishing”, where the groomer pretends to be someone they’re not in order to gain trust. Read our guide to staying safe online here.

Grooming can also take the form of predatory marriage. This is where someone exploits an adult at risk, often with dementia. They isolate them from their family and coerce them into marriage.



## SIGNS OF GROOMING

**Here is some of the signs of grooming you should look out for:**

- The person becomes withdrawn, or they may seem troubled by something but unwilling to talk about it. Alternatively, their emotions might become more volatile.
- You notice them using or wearing something new, that you did not buy for them.
- Groomers often aim to isolate their targets from their family or friends. If they seem reluctant to see you, or they refuse a visit, it might be because someone is manipulating them.
- You notice that sums of money have disappeared from the person's bank account, or the person claims they cannot pay for food or bills.
- The person might be spending more time on the phone, or online, than usual. But they will not say what sites they're visiting, or who they're talking to.
- They start talking about a new "friend", "boyfriend" or "girlfriend", and it is not clear who they are or how they met them.
- Grooming can also lead to radicalisation. In which case, you might notice that the person starts talking about an issue or a cause that is never really interested them before. **Head here for more information about radicalisation and adults at risk.**

**Watch this Webinar:**

**Online sexual harassment: how to stay safe online - part of Safeguarding Awareness Week (vimeo.com)**



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## WHAT TO DO IF YOUR SUSPECT GROOMING IS HAPPENING

The problem is that victims of grooming often do not feel like they need help. Also, some instances of grooming have all the appearance of authentic romances or relationships, until it is too late.

If you suspect someone close to you is being groomed, either online or in person, there are plenty of ways you can get the support and guidance you need.

**Respond** is an organisation that provides a range of services to people with learning disabilities who have suffered from sexual abuse. You can call their helpline on 0808 808 0700.

**Operation REPEAT** is a campaign to address the problem of doorstep crimes and scam prevention. Not many people realise that these issues count as grooming. But you can report a crime, or share your concerns, by calling 101 or 999 in an emergency.

**Small Steps** can help you if you suspect that someone close to you is in danger of being radicalised. You can email them at [info@smallsteps.ltd](mailto:info@smallsteps.ltd)

<https://www.suzylamplugh.org/am-i-being-stalked-tool>



## PREVENT

### **Martyn's Law – Also known by its official title Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill.**

#### **Who was Martyn?**

Martyn's Law is named in tribute to Martyn Hett who was killed in the 2017 attack on Manchester Arena

#### **What is Martyn's Law**

Martyn's Law will ensure that Premises in the UK are prepared for and protected against terrorist attacks, in an aim to reduce the impact of terror attacks. Premises will be formally required to assess the risk of terrorism in areas where qualifying activities take place.

#### **What is a qualifying activity?**

##### **Qualifying activities include:**

- Entertainment and leisure
- Food and drink
- Museums and galleries
- Sports grounds
- Public areas of local and central government – including town halls
- Visitor attractions
- Temporary events
- Places of worship
- Health
- Education

##### **Premises that meet the following criteria will be included in the duty of Martyn's Law**

1. That the premise is an eligible one – i.e., building or event with a defined boundary;
2. That a qualifying activity takes place at the location; and
3. That the maximum occupancy of the premises meets a specified threshold – either 100+ or 800+

#### **What tiers of responsibility are there?**

##### **There are two standards, these are:**

- Standard Tier - for premises with a capacity between 100 and 799.
- Enhanced Tier – for premises with a capacity over 800





## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- Do you frequent any places with a capacity over 100?
- Would they be a standard or enhanced tier?
- What would you expect the venue to do to keep you safe?

**Examples of Capacity sizes. Here are a few examples of common venues and their capacity.**

Old Trafford Football Stadium	74,310
Manchester Arena	21,000
Royal Albert Hall	5,272
Westminster Abbey	2,200
London Palladium Theatre	2,297

### What is expected for the duty of care for each tier?

**Standard Tier** – There will be a need to complete free training, awareness and sharing of information to staff. They must also complete a risk assessment, plan of preparation. The plan should include processes to follow, and the ability to make rapid decisions and carry out actions to save lives. This could include:

- Locking doors to delay attacker’s progress
- Guiding staff and visitors to alternative exits
- Enabling life-saving treatment to be administered by staff whilst awaiting the emergency services.

**Enhanced Tier** – There will be an obligation to create a risk assessment and a security plan, This will allow duty holders to assess the balance of risk reuction against time, money and effort to achieve a successful level of security preparedness, including Fire and Health and Safety.

### Is Martyn’s Law in effect yet?

As per January 2024, the Bill is awaiting the public consultation promised by the Government regarding the Standard Tier. Once that consultation has taken place, the Bill can be laid before Parliament. This consultation is though to look at the starting capacity for the standard tier, and to see if any venues will be excluded, such as village halls or other premises in the voluntary sector.

Although it could be 2025 before the law is in effect, it is still important for venues to start planning and preparing.

