Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the first safeguarding briefing of 2021. As usual, there is a number of items to bring to you and I hope the information below is useful to you. Please note the date for the Spring Term Safeguarding Forum – we are able to offer one place per setting (for Designated Leads only) and I hope to see you there.

Take care everyone

Jo Barclay

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Head of Education Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Education Directorate

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**Spring term safeguarding forum**

You will be aware the first safeguarding forum was held in October and we had over 160 people attend, which was great.

Going forward, we intend to hold a face to face forum each term and then an online session in the evening for anyone unable to attend during the day. The date for next term is **24th March – 9.30am for the day session and 6.00pm for the evening**. Clearly, we are unable to meet face to face in March, so the day session this term will also be online.

These forums are for Designated Leads and we are offering one place per setting at each session. If you wish to apply for a place at either session, please do so [here](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fconsultations.essex.gov.uk%2Fworkforce-development-1%2F51ef8732&data=04%7C01%7C%7C0c833dcf5bd84340395a08d89ba6bfd7%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637430487776273588%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=kv9dsQ1oL4cOfFFqtpt8kN2SWhkE4Ttd8LI%2BDiF%2BLWo%3D&reserved=0)

**Welfare checks for children not attending the setting**

We have prepared some resources to support settings in undertaking welfare checks for children not attending. Below is a checklist for welfare checks and a flow chart to set out action following a ‘no response’ to welfare checks:

 

**Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) training opportunities**

**Online safety for young children**

The ESCB are offering a webinar to:

* Raise awareness of how young children use technology and the potential risks
* Explore a range of resources and approaches to help talk to young children about online safety
* Signpost to useful resources to support parents / carers

This webinar will be running Tuesday 9th March 2021, 10.00am – 12.00pm and you can [book your place](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fconsultations.essex.gov.uk%2Fesab%2F87eaf671&data=04%7C01%7C%7C460942de3a294c91307908d8c77cda8c%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637478686336511698%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=hQN8oGQWWPk4cZFpYjn8XQBhMHpfXDFT9B%2BD71%2FuaNY%3D&reserved=0) here

**Early help and Team Around the Family (TAF) Workshops**

The ESCB are running courses to support agencies to understand the Early Help and TAF process. Details on how to book are available [here](https://www.escb.co.uk/learning-and-development/early-help-and-team-around-the-family-workshops-virtual-session/)

**Domestic abuse**

COMPASS is the single point of access helpline to support victims of domestic abuse across Southend, Essex and Thurrock. Access to your local domestic abuse support services remain unchanged throughout the national lockdown. The COMPASS helpline **0330 333 7444** is open every day:

* ***8am - 8pm, Mon - Fri***
* ***8am - 1pm Sat - Sun***

Outside these hours there is information and national 24 hour numbers available on their website [https://www.essexcompass.org.uk](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMTAxMDguMzI5NjU1OTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lc3NleGNvbXBhc3Mub3JnLnVrIn0.c3b5qmSvOWj3gy38ci5MHhiWeMZGmJb8H8tqw_IQIVc%2Fs%2F508087139%2Fbr%2F92826198140-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765949237%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=HshM1ET1l15JPjhDesJwAr08Cj6ssk%2BQhHTo3eupvqw%3D&reserved=0) where you can also make an online referral and will be contacted within 24 hours.

National helplines:

* [National Domestic Violence Helpline](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDEyMjIuMzIzNzQ5MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5uYXRpb25hbGRhaGVscGxpbmUub3JnLnVrLyJ9.kXrskyA346Oh5tzr94Dp_9Gh-82rtZrwrBcrlgd0FfM%2Fs%2F942052182%2Fbr%2F92240152333-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765949237%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=pNK1F%2BORzAdweVn6iZWbIoPe2LF2F%2B7DEs5QE9%2BVQ4g%3D&reserved=0) - **0808 2000 247**
* [National LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDEyMjIuMzIzNzQ5MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwOi8vd3d3LmdhbG9wLm9yZy51ay9kb21lc3RpY2FidXNlLyJ9.BEOAtJpr7WNs_R1wEttt7T2bFgEEpS_Fd_fdtTxGdXg%2Fs%2F942052182%2Fbr%2F92240152333-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765959233%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=jjpHjzW%2BQwRSsEDJpasxV4fM0xP88Cm4i%2FuTd1Sj6xc%3D&reserved=0)**-  0800 999 5428**
* [Respect](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDEyMjIuMzIzNzQ5MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3Jlc3BlY3RwaG9uZWxpbmUub3JnLnVrLyJ9.ucRRysEJVQmb5ozcB1z_PQg2OjbsOX0rOm-Sn_mhEtY%2Fs%2F942052182%2Fbr%2F92240152333-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765969232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=lj7PkLusZztyhoND%2BAqpfUEciOy6Dj8YNvmHaayFSz4%3D&reserved=0) - **0808 802 4040**
* [Men’s Advice Line](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDEyMjIuMzIzNzQ5MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL21lbnNhZHZpY2VsaW5lLm9yZy51ay8ifQ.yjtryl-N1ZDw8M-e5pwbD6KqpERrOlWPopbhVHpet2E%2Fs%2F942052182%2Fbr%2F92240152333-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765969232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=t9i%2BqvV5i1bWqUMEsbcMnu3eg1EJnULg2mos5BWSJD8%3D&reserved=0) -  **0808 801 0327**
* [Shelter](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDEyMjIuMzIzNzQ5MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2VuZ2xhbmQuc2hlbHRlci5vcmcudWsvZ2V0X2hlbHAifQ.rX7-cAUjfu3AvaA-MyQ-oUoaWK5sgS5v7qRKpZvtjDQ%2Fs%2F942052182%2Fbr%2F92240152333-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765979223%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=8Umwu09RJ3DMQZOwcknc6bylKWFGNTG0WJpZwDt%2Flmo%3D&reserved=0) -  **0800 800 4444**
* [NSPCC Helpline](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDEyMjIuMzIzNzQ5MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5uc3BjYy5vcmcudWsva2VlcGluZy1jaGlsZHJlbi1zYWZlL291ci1zZXJ2aWNlcy9uc3BjYy1oZWxwbGluZS8ifQ.68hZb69bIKmazInh4n0LrJj6EvG5EIHmsf6bGNuYA64%2Fs%2F942052182%2Fbr%2F92240152333-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765989215%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=0sLm2ThDML0b3sY%2Br0Jz%2B5irGuVjBAfStONFPmfSKBQ%3D&reserved=0) - **0808 800 5000**
* [ChildLine](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDEyMjIuMzIzNzQ5MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5jaGlsZGxpbmUub3JnLnVrLyJ9.vvvaNI9wf5IPxRoN2ETJK0wAukPVi3jFD7_j7pDx37U%2Fs%2F942052182%2Fbr%2F92240152333-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765989215%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=F6GR%2FIQRmUnC1qbBNuyOttRuViSgSSIt8SOw6QGNFWM%3D&reserved=0) -  **0800 1111**
* [Samaritans](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDEyMjIuMzIzNzQ5MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5zYW1hcml0YW5zLm9yZy8ifQ.8Jf5e68FikeLjPdFMw79tcN3Zq1BOiX1L1VgdMVVwjQ%2Fs%2F942052182%2Fbr%2F92240152333-l&data=04%7C01%7C%7C847c360483af49a0bc5208d8b3b6bfbc%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637456944765999208%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=voGk9NzBhfZtTboXB%2Fyu%2FWTMwm4QH7ptV9lACtBBxUo%3D&reserved=0) -  **116 123**

**NSPCC COVID-19 guidance**

The NSPCC has updated its guidance for EYFS settings: [Coronavirus briefing: safeguarding guidance and information for early years providers](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Femail.nspcc.org.uk%2Fc%2F1awEaJ9u8Bd59xW90TobSpj0sT&data=04%7C01%7C%7C917debc79e3f4291030608d8a027c740%7Ca8b4324f155c4215a0f17ed8cc9a992f%7C0%7C0%7C637435440013578651%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=plnrRB9LkO8gOeO99m%2FK16Lb9x1GYjn9yebu5wrq1J8%3D&reserved=0)

# Guidance on how to complete a Request for Support

# This new [guidance](https://www.essexeffectivesupport.org.uk/media/1157/request_for_support_guide-professionals.pdf) breaks down in detail what information to include in each section of the Request for Support form and therefore enable the Children and Families Hub to make a timely threshold decision.

**The Essential Living Fund (ELF)**

The Essential Living Fund (ELF) is emergency support for people hit by the pandemic. The ELF is receiving extra funding from the Covid Winter Grant Scheme to help people living in Essex with energy and water bills, food and other essential household items. This flyer contains further details



**Update to Section 17 permission arrangements**

The existing s17 Child in Need ‘Permission/Consent to Share Information’ forms have been refreshed and will be rolled out later this term. These changes are in response to feedback from partner agencies, learning from Multi-Agency Case Audit (MACA) work and the need for the existing framework to clearly reflect the practice and GDPR principals that underpin s17 work.

There are 4 documents to support the refreshed arrangements for sharing information under s17

1. Guidance for Parents
2. The Consent/Permission to Share Form completed with Parent(s) by the Social Worker
3. The Request for Information Document (sent to Partner Agencies by Social Care)
4. Guidance for Partner Agencies to complete their form