

Enquiries to: Audrey Kingham

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Dear Headteachers and Chair of Governors

DBS/Safeguarding checks for officers from the Education & Skills Service and children's social workers attending schools

We are writing to inform all headteachers and their governing bodies that members of staff from the Northumberland County Council Education & Skills Service and Children's Social Care who attend a school, academy or alternative provider will have with them their Northumberland County Council identity badge which is an assurance that the staff member has been appropriately checked and assessed as being suitable to work with children.

This assurance adheres to Department for Education safeguarding standards as outlined in the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024. It would be entirely appropriate for schools to phone or contact us to check the identity of any staff member if there was any doubt about their identity or DBS status.

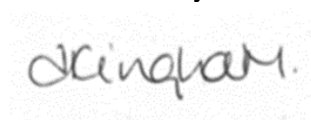
All social workers who are employed by Northumberland County Council have had DBS clearance prior to commencing their role and are registered with the regulatory body Social Work England. This regulatory body also ensures that checks are made to ensure their suitability to work with children, and this registration is updated annually. When a social worker is working for us provided by an agency, the agency undertake all such checks and we ask for confirmation that the checks have been completed, and verification of these checks.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact:

Tara.prescott@northumberland.gov.uk 07767 221092 with queries about Education & Skills Service Officers

Marie.roberts@northumberland.gov.uk 0783 3437064 with queries about Children's Social Care Officers

Yours sincerely



Audrey Kingham

Director of Education and Skills/Joint Interim Director of Children's Services