

Writing a blog for the Contextual Safeguarding Network Guidelines

Overview

The Contextual Safeguarding blog series provides an opportunity for members of the Network to share learning, ideas and examples around implementing contextual approaches in order to safeguard young people from extra-familial harm. Once finalised, the blog will be published on the website homepage and will be accessible to the public.

Content

The focus of the blog should be on sharing learning with members across the network. Members may wish to reflect on their own practice, share contextual safeguarding successes, highlight learning from trainings and conferences, or discuss relevant current events.

Once you have decided on a topic, please consider the following key considerations to guide your writing:

- **Authorisation** – It is the responsibility of each Network member to secure the necessary permission to write for the Network, notably when identifying a local authority or employer.
- **Author** – Please provide information regarding where you are from and what you do
- **Audience** – remember your audience is a diverse range of professionals from across sectors. The piece should be professional and accessible and should avoid using jargon that is sector-specific
- **Relevance** – Please consider how it relates to contextual safeguarding and how it is relevant to practice
- **Usability** – can it be applied, are there resources?
- **Analysis and reflection** – outline the problem/ solution, and provide specifics regarding any learning
- **Privacy** – Authors should not use names of young people or include any information that could identify a young person, such as schools, neighbourhood or estate names, locations of abusive incidents, etc
- **Language** – contextual safeguarding is an approach that is collaborative, rights-based, ecological, evidence-informed and strengths-based, please reflect these values your language when discussing harm, safety, young people, their families and their communities

Format

- **Length** – Blog posts should be 2 – 4 pages
- **Title** – Provide a title to that grab a viewer’s attention and convey a key message or theme of the piece.
- **Tone** – Blog posts should aim to be both professional and conversational. Blogs are not pieces of academic writing. However, where possible, practitioners should include links or references to materials they use to write the piece.

Please submit blogs to lauren.e.wroe@durham.ac.uk