

Quick start for School Counselors and Child Protection Designates

School counselors and child protection designates promote awareness, enable prevention and provide accountability. There are many roles to play as a school counselor, child protection designate (CPD) or designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and school heads should support these roles with time to fulfill these responsibilities.

- [role in oversight and implementation of schoolwide safeguarding policies and procedures](#)
- confidentially document suspicion and disclosures and retain records
- [role in raising awareness of child protection and inappropriate behaviors by training teaching and non-teaching staff and wider community of parents and students](#)
- [provide and/or audit regular whole staff training in symptoms of abuse and first responder interview techniques](#)
- [role in victim support and aftermath counseling for affected family \(may include non-victimized students, parents, and staff\)](#)
- role in creating an environment where students and staff can share concerns and young people are reassured of school's support
- [creation of local support network, including multidisciplinary team of law enforcement, social workers, trauma trained psychologists or counselors, and healthcare providers](#)
- creation of local or regional school counselor network for professional support and sharing of resources

Quick start links for guidelines, checklists, and shared best practice for school counselors or child protection designates:

- [Child Protection Assessment Checklist Draft](#)
- [AISA Child Protection Handbook](#)
- [Sexting in Schools \(UKCCIS\)](#)
- [Brook Traffic Light](#) (peer to peer sexual behavior guide)
- [NAIS – Child Sexual Abuse: Reporting Guidelines](#)
- [International Reporting Links](#)
- [Designated Persons Workbook \(UK\)](#): forms, checklists, best practice
- [Blank flow chart for reporting concerns](#)
- [Terminology and definitions ECPAT/Luxembourg Guidelines 2016](#)
- [SAS full CP policy including reporting structures](#)
- [Sample reporting form](#)
- [Responding to Improper Peer on Peer Touching \(British Columbia, Canada\)](#)
- [Reporting Concerns from UK](#)
- [What Parents Should Know – Maria-Consuela Sauzier](#)
- [30 Guiding Questions to use to assess child abuse](#)
- [CfC – Guidelines, Responding to Disclosure – First Responder Interview Guidelines](#)
- [ICMEC Child Protection Training for International School Communities](#)