

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:

- [Blank flow chart for reporting concerns](#)
- [Brook Traffic Light](#) (peer to peer sexual behavior guide)
- [CfC – Guidelines, Responding to Disclosure – First Responder Interview Guidelines](#)
- [Designated Persons Workbook \(UK\)](#): forms, checklists, best practice
- [ICMEC Child Protection Training for International School Communities](#)
- [Incident Response](#)
- [International Reporting Links](#)
- [Policy Sample including child protection lead position description](#)
- [Reporting Concerns from UK](#)
- [Responding to Improper Peer on Peer Touching](#)
- [Risk Management](#)
- [Sample reporting form](#)
- [Sexting in Schools \(UKCCIS\)](#)
- [Terminology and definitions ECPAT/Luxembourg Guidelines 2016](#)