

SAFEGUARDING

Update December 2009

What is safeguarding?

The Government has defined the term 'safeguarding children' as:

'The process of protecting children from abuse or neglect, preventing impairment of their health and development, and ensuring they are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care that enables children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.'

The Safeguarding children review

Every three years there is a review of the arrangements that help keep children safe by eight inspectorates involved in regulating and inspecting services for children and young people. Reports from these reviews have been published in 2002, 2005 and 2008. You can read and download the 2005 and 2008 reports from this website.

Source: <http://www.safeguardingchildren.org.uk/>

Please follow this link to download the 2008 report
<http://www.safeguardingchildren.org.uk/Safeguarding-Children/2008-report>

Independent Safeguarding Authority

<http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/>

The Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) has been created to help prevent unsuitable people from working with children and vulnerable adults.

The ISA work in partnership with the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and other partners.

Increased safeguards have now been introduced under the Vetting and Barring Scheme, from October 12th 2009:

- It is now a criminal offence for individuals barred by the ISA to work or apply to work with children or vulnerable adults in a wide range of posts - including most NHS jobs, Prison Service, education and childcare. Employers also face criminal sanctions for knowingly employing a barred individual across a wider range of work;
- The three former barred lists (POCA, POVA and List 99) are being replaced by two new ISA-barred lists;
- Employers, local authorities, professional regulators and other bodies have a duty to refer to the ISA, information about individuals working with children or vulnerable adults where they consider them to have caused harm or pose a risk of harm.

Action

- Please remember to wear your BSU library card and lanyard in your school/setting
- Fully brief yourself on school/setting safeguarding policy
- Ensure you attend all University sessions covering issues related to safeguarding
- Clarify all matters of concern with a lead professional from the school/setting or University