



Here's your Quarterly Helping of our Apprenticeship Newsletter.

Safeguarding and Prevent Spotlight

Designated Safeguarding Leads:

If you have any worries or concerns (no matter how big or small), our Designated Safeguarding Team is here to listen and support you. The Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Simon Kirkland

Contact Simon on:
07766 768474



[Email Simon](#)

Kath Percival - Until 31st January 2024 (Maternity Leave)

Contact Kath on:
07917 388174



[Email Kath](#)

Jobeth Hamilton

-
From February 2024

Contact Jobeth on:
07917 388166



[Email Jobeth](#)

Prevent Duty Guidance Updated

The new Prevent Duty Guidance (PDG) has been released. The guidance came into force on 31st December 2023 and is a statutory requirement for all specified authorities and it applied to us as an organisation that delivers education services in the way of apprenticeships.

This guidance may also inform best practice for other sectors that are not specified authorities but may wish to consider how to prevent the risk of people becoming terrorists or from supporting terrorism.

[Click here for Updated Guidance](#)

Home Office Prevent Data

The Home Office released [annual Prevent data](#) outlining statistics on the number of individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent Programme from April 2022 to March 2023.

The main headlines include a 6.4% increase in Prevent referrals from previous year with referrals from education increasing to 39% - the largest referrer into the Prevent system.

Males continue to be the largest gender demographic (90%), and 15-20year olds are the largest age group to be referred to Prevent, this is also reflected in the age cohort of Channel discussion.

Vulnerability present and no CT continues to be the largest ideology category (37%) and continues to increase year on year. Behind this category is Extreme Right Wing (19%) and Conflicted (18%). Islamist referrals (11%) are down from previous year.

[Click here for Annual Prevent Data](#)

NSPCC Banter vs Bullying in Sport

A recent webinar, [delivered by the NSPCC](#), explored the differences between banter and bullying. It is a good reference to us to understand how to identify when banter might be crossing the line into bullying behaviour. Here are some considerations;

- Does everyone find it funny?
- Is it between friends?
- Does it bring the group together?
- Can both parties participate?
- Is it stopped when asked?
- Does it target a protected characteristic?
- Does it target insecurities?

For further information, please visit the NSPCC's Anti Bullying pages below.

[Click here for More Information](#)

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day takes place in February of each year to raise awareness of a safer and better internet for all. This year it will take place on **Tuesday 6th February** and will be themed around 'inspiring change, making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'.

We know that the internet can be a brilliant place to connect virtually, gain insight and learn. Most of the time, content can be positive but unfortunately it can also be damaging, harmful and illegal. Due to this, reporting plays an important part in making sure the internet is safe for all users.



The [Report Harmful Content website](#) can help you understand the types of harm and how to report it:



For Terrorist related content, you can report to [Action Counters Terrorism](#) or via the iREPORTit app which can be downloaded free on [Apple](#) and [Android devices](#). To report sexual images of under 18's online, please go directly to

the [Internet Watch Foundation](#).

[Click here for More Information](#)

National Apprenticeship Week

The 17th annual National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) takes place this year between **5-11th February**. The week brings together businesses and apprentices across the country to shine a light on the positive impact that apprenticeships make to individuals, businesses, and the wider economy. The theme for this year is 'Skills For Life'.

Throughout the week we will be promoting some of the amazing work we see, so, please engage with us and share your successes too. Feel free to contact lucy.wallbank@sportstructures.com if you want to discuss how you can engage and work with us to promote apprenticeships and the impact it is having for you.

Free Sport England funded training and CPD

Buddle (previously called Club Matters) is here to provide free learning and support resources, to inspire and strengthen clubs and community organisations offering sport and physical activity, and the professionals that work with them. More information can be found on the website: <https://buddle.co/learning-opportunities> where you can also book onto the courses.

[Click here to Discover Buddle](#)

As the organisation delivering the training, we can also offer bespoke training to meet any organisations needs. Flexibility on timings (45 minutes to 3 hours) and delivery format (online or face-to-face) is available and the training can be offered as a webinar, workshop, clinic or share and learn session.

If this is of interest please contact us on buddle@sportstructures.com to plan a discussion on how we can support your organisation.



Staff News

We've had some updates to our [staff team](#) so wanted to make you are of this. Unfortunately our Apprenticeship Programme Manager Tom Holmes will be leaving us on 24th January and is taking up a role at a Birmingham City University supporting them with apprenticeships internally. With over 4 years of excellent service, we wish Tom all the best in his future career.

Jon Gath, who many of you will know and have worked with, will be picking up the

Apprenticeship Programme Manager role when he returns on 1st February. We facilitated Jon to go travelling in South East Asia at the end of September and he returns to us far more cultured and excited to be back and work with all our employers and apprentices, supported by the rest of the apprenticeship team.



Our Managing Director Kath is going on Maternity Leave from the end of

January and our Senior Apprenticeship Manager, Ross Szabo will be taking on her responsibilities while she's on leave, with support from the wider Senior Leadership Team. Ross will continue to oversee the Apprenticeship programmes as he is currently.

Key Dates this Quarter

This section will show key dates to be aware of and some of these may be picked up by tutors in discussions with learners as part of the enrichment we include in our apprenticeship programmes.

February

- Time to Talk Day - 1st February
- LGBT History Month - 1st - 29th February
- National Apprenticeship Week - 5th - 11th February

March

- Employee Appreciation Day - 1st March
- National Careers Week - 4th - 9th March
- Neurodiversity Celebration Week - 18th - 24th March

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Sport Structures

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