



Statutory Safeguarding Audit Launch Webinar

Attendees: Please use the Q&A function to ask any questions you may have during the webinar, which we will (time and volume permitting) address at the end of the session.

Any questions we don't have time to answer (or need to find the answer to) will be included in an Audits FAQs document which will be made available, along with the recording of this webinar after the event at [Safeguarding Audits | Shropshire Learning Gateway](#).

Context and overview

Shropshire Council has overarching legal responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people in their area, regardless of the types of educational settings they attend.

This includes being assured that the safeguarding arrangements of educational settings are compliant with legal duties and in line with local arrangements.

Part of this assurance activity is requiring all registered education providers to complete a statutory safeguarding audit (formerly known as the section 11 audit)

From the academic year 2025-2026:

All education providers registered in Shropshire will be required to submit their audits using an online platform ([Phew!](#))

w/c 24.11.25:

Audit communication email from David Shaw to all Headteacher/Managers of registered providers.



w/c 8.12.25:

Audit Launch.

Headteachers/Managers sent link to access the Audit (with relevant commencement instructions)



Spring Term 1:

Safeguarding Team provide support to providers via Launch Webinar (to be recorded) and Troubleshooting Drop-Ins (monthly: after-school, evenings and weekend)



End of Spring Term 1:

Audit Completion Due Date (Temporarily Closed to providers)



Summer Term:

Education Quality and Safeguarding Team to:

- Review completion and follow Escalation Process for non-completers (report completion rate to Partnership Boards).
- Analyse results



w/c 4.5.25:

Audit Re-opened (to facilitate completion of agreed extensions and ongoing updates)



Autumn Term:

- Report on Thematic Findings
- Prepare for Audit 2026-2027



Audit completion support

The Education Quality Safeguarding Team will be providing support to help providers to complete the audit. This includes:

- Audits Respondents Manual
- Dedicated contact email (*if you're unable to resolve difficulties via accessing the manual*): safeguarding.audits@shropshire.gov.uk
- Troubleshooting drop-ins throughout the Spring Term: [Safeguarding Audits | Shropshire Learning Gateway](#).



Non-completion escalation process

Initial non-completion:

Providers who have not completed by the submission deadline will be contacted by the Education Quality Safeguarding Officers at the beginning of Summer Term to identify potential barriers and set agreed revised deadlines

Escalation for Persistent Non-Completion

Persistent non-completion will lead to escalation to:

1. Education Quality Advisor (Safeguarding/EY)
2. Head of Education Quality and Safeguarding
3. Safeguarding Officer Performance Visit to review safeguarding arrangements
4. Findings of the performance visit will be shared with Director Children's Services/Ofsted/DfE.

If at any point in this process, serious concerns are raised, the Local Authority will follow the education providers causing concern process as outlined in the Shropshire Education Excellence Strategy.



- Access to the system is by invite via link to the [Audits](#) Webpage (to be sent to the Headteacher/Principal).
- Additional individuals can be added and allocate to the audit (including strategic leads where appropriate).
- Once the audit is complete, any actions identified can be easily viewed in an action plan.
- The Audit/Action Plan can be downloaded as a PDF document to view/share.

Phew! Audit System



AUDIT RESPONSE SYSTEM

[Logout](#) [Your Audits](#) [Your Team](#) [Assign Team](#) [Change Password](#)

[Home](#) > [Your Audits](#) > Test School/College > TEST Statutory Safeguarding Audit

TEST Statutory Safeguarding Audit

Test School/College

Introduction

☐ Leadership and Governance

☐ Reporting and Responding to Concerns

☐ Training and Awareness

☐ Safer Recruitment

☐ Risk assessment and Site safety

☐ Child-centred approach

☐ Curriculum and Prevention

End of the Audit

[Print this section](#) [Print this audit](#) [Review this audit](#) [Download PDF](#)

Introduction

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 places a legal duty on Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership/Local Authority to seek assurance as to the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements for registered education providers in the area.

The Local Authority **expect** the following minimum required standard to complete the audit:

- Answer the required questions.
- Set actions when not compliant with required minimum.

The Local Authority **does not expect**:

- Evidence including files to be uploaded. This option has been enabled so that providers can use this tool to share with their Governing Bodies/Proprietor/Management Committee to enable them to have strategic oversight of the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements.

Progress: 0%

[Save Response](#)

[Final Submission](#)

[Top](#)

[Manage Consent](#)

Audit Questions

- Differentiated according to provision type (e.g. childminders, EYFS Group providers, Schools: state and independent; including boarding; post 16)
- Most questions are: Yes/No Answers (required). Those that aren't require a narrative response.
- Evidence (optional)
- Actions (required if "no" optional if "yes")

Leadership & Governance

- Designated Safeguarding Lead in place
- There are Governance arrangements and oversight
- Safeguarding Policies and Procedures are in place

Reporting & Responding to Concerns

- Staff/volunteers have knowledge of and implement Child Protection Policies and Procedures
- Non-school staff know how to raise concerns.
- Safeguarding procedure are applied in line with local arrangements
- Records are compliant

Training & Awareness

- Training for staff (including DSLs) and Governing Bodies/Proprietors complies with statutory guidance and local arrangements (including specific explanation as to how)

Safer Recruitment

- Required safer recruitment/contract checks are completed and are compliant.

Site Safety

- Local notification protocols are followed
- Preparedness for the implementation of Martyn's Law
- Management of visitors.
- Use of premises for other (non-educational) activities.

Child-centred approach

- There is a child-centred approach to practice which is compliant.
- Steps are taken to ensure children in vulnerable groups are supported.

Curriculum & Prevention

- Children are taught how to keep themselves and others safe.
- Mental health and wellbeing is promoted.



Completing the audit: Top tips

- Read every section
- Completed every question/field in questions including within



Open Answer Sheet *

- Click the box to mark this question as completed. An audit can only be submitted once all questions have been marked as completed.



- Regularly

Save Response

- Once all answers completed and showing 100% click

Final Submission