

Education, Children and Violence Guidance

Summary of Recommendations

1

Keep children in education

Why? Being in education can protect children from violence.

Recommended actions

- Deliver evidence-informed attendance-improvement strategies (such as meetings with parents/carers and breakfast clubs).
- Implement whole-school and targeted behaviour support to reduce the need for exclusion.
- Provide appropriate support for temporarily suspended and permanently excluded children.



2

Provide children with trusted adults

Why? Meaningful relationships with trusted adults can protect children from violence.

Recommended actions

- Provide one-to-one mentoring by trained adults to support vulnerable children.
- Engage vulnerable children in sports with coaches who can support them.



3

Develop children's social and emotional skills

Why? Effective social and emotional skills can protect children from violence.

Recommended actions

- Develop children's social and emotional skills with a universal curriculum, targeted support and whole-school strategies.
- Provide relationship violence reduction sessions to secondary-age children.
- Implement an anti-bullying strategy.
- Support access to therapy for those children who require additional support.



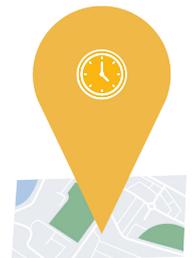
4

Target efforts at the places and times where violence occurs

Why? Violence happens more often in certain places and at certain times.

Recommended actions

- Survey children and talk to staff to determine where to focus your efforts.
- Meet with partners to understand the local context and coordinate your safeguarding response.



5

Cautiously consider unproven strategies and avoid harmful approaches

Why? Resources are best spent on evidence-based strategies.

Recommended actions

- Cautiously consider unproven strategies (such as knife education programmes, trauma-informed practice training, and police in corridors and classrooms).
- Avoid approaches that have been proven to cause harm (such as prison awareness programmes).



Many school, college and AP leaders are already implementing several of these recommendations. We encourage leaders to continue to focus on these priorities and hone their implementation in line with this guidance.