



Guidance for Educational Settings Following the Death of a Child or Staff Member



Purpose of this guidance

When a death occurs to a close member within a school community there is usually a profound sense of sho





Videos for
Parents/carers:
[Child Bereavement UK
supporting a bereaved
child video](#)

[Child Bereavement UK](#)





Create a Suicide Prevention Action Group



Checklist for considerations in the event of the death of a staff member

Area of support and guidance	Considerations
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expect from their child so that they are prepared and can offer support at home

[Guidance for parents to support them talking to children about death](#)

Videos for
Parents/carers:



Suspected suicide:
postvention

Undertake a circles of vulnerability exercise to identify those who may need specific support or be at additional risk. Liaise with outside organisations such as sport clubs/activity groups. Appendix A.

The school may decide to maintain a register of suicide attempts and unexpected/more intense self-harm across the whole school population until at least the first anniversary of the death or the inquest whichever is the later. See Appendix C.





This



Appendix B: Terms of Reference for a Suicide Postvention Action Group (SPAG)

Terms of Reference

Aim

To prevent a further suicide, self-harm or a cluster of responses from developing. To minimise the longer term mental and emotional distress, and its impact, that arises from a suspected suicide.

Objectives

To decide what action needs to be taken to minimise the chance of further injuries or deaths – particularly protecting vulnerable and impressionable individuals.

To oversee and co-ordinate the action needed to support young people impacted by a suspected suicide of a pupil.

To co-ordinate this response across agencies.

To escalate any concerns to Public Health on rts@worcestershire.gov.uk (Real Time Surveillance) or telephone 01905 768053 and ask for the Suicide Prevention Team, Public Health.

Membership

WCF Safeguarding lead (Chair)
Headteacher
School DSL(s)
Senior Mental Health Lead
Mental health support (WEST or Act on It worker)
Educational Psychologist
SUDIC Nurse
Bereaved by suicide service
CAMHS
School Nurse
Note taker

Optional

WCF Comms

If a possible cluster of self harm or attempted suicide is of concern as a result of using the tool in Appendix C, contact rts@worcestersire.gov.uk and invite to the SPAG:

Primary Care rep e.g. GP
Public Health rep

Frequency of meetings

This will be dependent on the planned action and timescales. It is suggested meetings be initially more frequent but at least once a term and at least until after the first anniversary of the death or the inquest whichever is the later.



