

# LEARNER NEWS

**SKILLS  
FOR LIFE**

**NATIONAL  
APPRENTICESHIP  
WEEK 2025**

**Celebrating National  
Apprenticeship Week!**

**Our Star Awards  
are back for 2025!**

**Are you a Star learner?**



# National Apprenticeship Week

This year, National Apprenticeship week takes place from 10th to 16th February. The theme for Department for Education have set this year is "Skills for Life" and individuals are encouraged to share posts on social media with the hash tag #NAW2025. This could be your personal story on the impact of your apprenticeship on your career, or why you love your apprenticeship. Remember to tag Busy Bees Education and Training within your post, as we would love to see your stories!

**SKILLS  
FOR LIFE**

**Our star awards are back!** We will be celebrating our apprentices during National Apprenticeship Week and the training team will be on the road visiting our winners to share their awards. We will also be sharing some myth busters around apprenticeships, learning about a day in the life of an apprentice and celebrating a catering challenge. Please look out for our posts on social media celebrating National Apprenticeship Week.



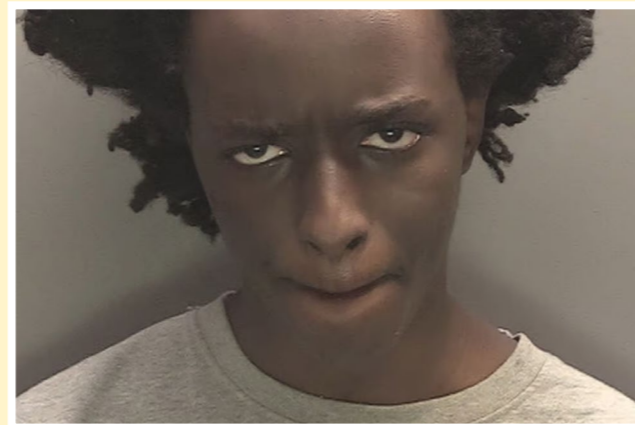
You can read more information on National Apprenticeship week using the link below, including useful toolkits to download, for learners and employers.  
<https://naw.appawards.co.uk/>

# The Prevent Duty and your responsibilities

In July 2024, a Taylor Swift dance class was taking place for children when a 17-year-old male, entered the building and carried out extreme acts of violence, resulting in the death of three young girls. A recent court case has taken place, and the individual has been sentenced to 52 years in prison for 3 counts of murder but cannot be confirmed as an act of terrorism due to current legislation. Further information on this case can be read using the following link - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4gweeq1344o>

The perpetrator had contact with a range of services prior to the attacks taking place, including the counter terrorism Prevent system, where three referrals were made by education settings, the police, mental health services and the justice system. The Perpetrator, Alex Rudakubana first became known to officials in 2019 due to self-isolation and anxiety, but his behaviour soon became troubling in school, using computers to research acts of violence. He was later expelled from school, for carrying a knife, and then returned attacking a peer with a hockey stick whilst carrying a knife in his backpack. This led to him attending two specialist schools and a college, where attendance was less than 1%. Teachers also expressed concerns around his behaviour. The local Child Safeguarding Partnership felt he struggled to engage after the exclusion, and this was made worse due the pandemic. Police had also received calls over a 3-year period from his parents, regarding his behaviour, and carrying a knife on a bus. During these incidents, referrals were made to the multi-agency safeguarding hub, which recommended early help services. Referrals to the

Prevent anti-extremism scheme, were made following comments he made regarding a mass shooting, a social media post about a Libyan dictator, and internet searches seen by a teacher relating to the London Bridge terror attacks during a lesson. Each individual case was assessed and not deemed a terrorism risk, which meant the case was closed and no referral to Chanel programme for intervention took place. After the Southport attack took place, a search of the home took place and found a document which could be linked to terrorism, as well as Tupperware box which contained deadly toxins. Devices found documents of violent historical subjects, and images of war and conflict in Gaza, Ukraine, Korea and Sudan, alongside images of knives and machetes. He had also attempted to go to his high school a week earlier to the attack and was stopped by his father who pleaded with the taxi driver not to take him, where before entering the taxi, he had searched a mass school stabbing which took place in 2024 in a church in Sydney. A formal inquiry is now underway.



## Stretch and Challenge

Please scan the QR code below to read the safeguarding and Welfare requirements to update your understanding.

SCAN ME



## How can we reduce the risk of people being drawn into Terrorism and extremism?

We have a duty of care to safeguard individuals and reduce the risk of being drawn into terrorism and extremism in line with the Prevent Duty. You should be aware of the signs and indicators that individuals could display and follow your settings policy for raising concerns. Remember to share information and not be bias when raising concerns and complete all necessary paperwork. We can also embed British Values into our everyday practice, in line with the Prevent Duty to reduce the risk of terrorism.

**To learn more about Prevent and British Values, talk to your Development Coach about attending our online Teaching sessions to enhance your knowledge and support you with your End Point Assessment Preparations.**



## Continued Professional Development (CPD)

# Democracy or injustice?

Donald Trump has been elected as the president of the United States of America and has signed executive orders to change legislation within the USA. This has caused worry, and upset within the country, and many are concerned about the impact of this.

Many voted for President Trump in the recent election, and he was successfully voted in. Whilst many celebrate Trump's victory, many are left wondering about their future and if this is a democracy or injustice to who they are as an individual. Some of the changes President Trump has made since being sworn in on 20th January include:-

- Halting a ban on TikTok
- Official policy to confirm there "are only two genders" in the USA - removing the rights of those who do not identify as male or female
- Restoring of the death penalty
- Ending of illegal and immoral discrimination programs
- Suspending the US refugee Admission Programme and limiting citizenship - removing the rights of refugees and those in need
- Securing borders - imposing strict border control
- Freedom of speech and federal censorship - allowing citizens to speak freely
- Withdrawing from the Paris Climate Change agreement



**Have a think about our British Values and how we implement them to provide democracy, does it align with what is being implemented in America?**



## Catering (CPD)

# Brand Standards

**Brand standards in catering provide reassurance to the customer that the food they are served will be the same, including recipes, ingredients and produces customer loyalty as they know what they are getting. For example, if you went to McDonalds in Cornwall, and then went in Scotland, what you order will be the same.**

### So how do we create a good brand standard?

- By designing and creating menus
- Managing budgets for menus to avoid a negative impact.
- Provide a good standard of food
- Ensure customer knows what they are getting, including nutritional values and allergy information
- Ensure there is nothing off spec that could create an issue
- Follow recipes and menus to reduce breaches



**Do you implement the above when preparing and serving food? Think about your part in creating a brand standard, and how you succeed in making it positive. You can complete a reflection in your learning journal to reflect on this.**

# Have you ever wondered what next?

## This month we hear from **Lucy**, a Learner Recruitment Officer and her career path.



**My name is Lucy and I am a Learner Recruitment Officer at Busy Bees Education and Training. I have been in this role with BBE&T for almost three years now but have been part of the Busy Bees Group for nearly fifteen years. We also support the Busy Bees Education and Training enquiries email inbox which means any enquiries that come in, we look to support with our information, advice, guidance, knowledge and experience.**

I began my time as a relief member of staff completing an Early Years Practitioner level 2 apprenticeship and progressed completing my Early Years Educator level 3 and my Leadership and Management Level 3. I was fortunate to experience all roles during my time in the centers such as Centre Director, Health and Safety Co-Ordinator and Training Mentor. It was my time as a Training Mentor that helped me to realize the importance of professional development and helping others to access these opportunities.

My main responsibility as a Learner Recruitment Officer is to support staff who are currently employed in their sector and wish to undertake learning and apprenticeships alongside their current role and to get them inducted onto the apprenticeship most suitable for them. We refer to these employed learners as 'upskills'.

We issue our application to all new Busy Bees members of staff who have passed their probation to support their new careers. However the application is available on our website to anyone ready for their next challenge.

When we receive an application from a member of staff there are a number of eligibility requirements we must ensure are met, these include that they have resided in the UK for at least three years and that they are not undertaking any other learning elsewhere. We also look at suitability and ensure the person applying is in a suitable role at their setting for the apprenticeship qualification plan. We will speak to their line manager and complete an Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) call and offer to support the learner with any questions they may have about learning.

There are a variety of pre-enrolment tasks we must ask applicants to complete which include a set of assessments in math's and English, a Cognassist neurodiversity assessment and a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) calculator. These assessments allow us to identify your strengths and areas where we can support you. During this time, if you identify as having any additional learning needs, we look at what reasonable adjustments you may have had in education before and how we can best support you to succeed.

Once all the assessments and pre-enrolment checks are completed by us, you are ready to be inducted into your apprenticeship. We will arrange for your induction to take place over Microsoft Teams with one of our Onboarding Officers and during this call you will become aware of who your Development Coach will be and set your first tasks as you begin your apprenticeship!



## Physical and mental health and wellbeing

Looking after your physical and mental health is vital. By participating in activities to increase physical exercise, you can reduce the risk of health issues and improve your overall wellbeing. There are many ways that you can engage in physical health and monitor this including the below

**Wearable technology**

**HIIT training**

**Functional fitness**

**Working with a personal trainer**

**Holistic wellness**

**Using digital fitness technology**



Mental health is just as important as physical health and can impact on your wellbeing. It is important to seek advice from professionals if you need support. Look at the below website, Hub of Hope which can help you to find support in your local area - <https://hubofhope.co.uk/>

## Dentist Crisis



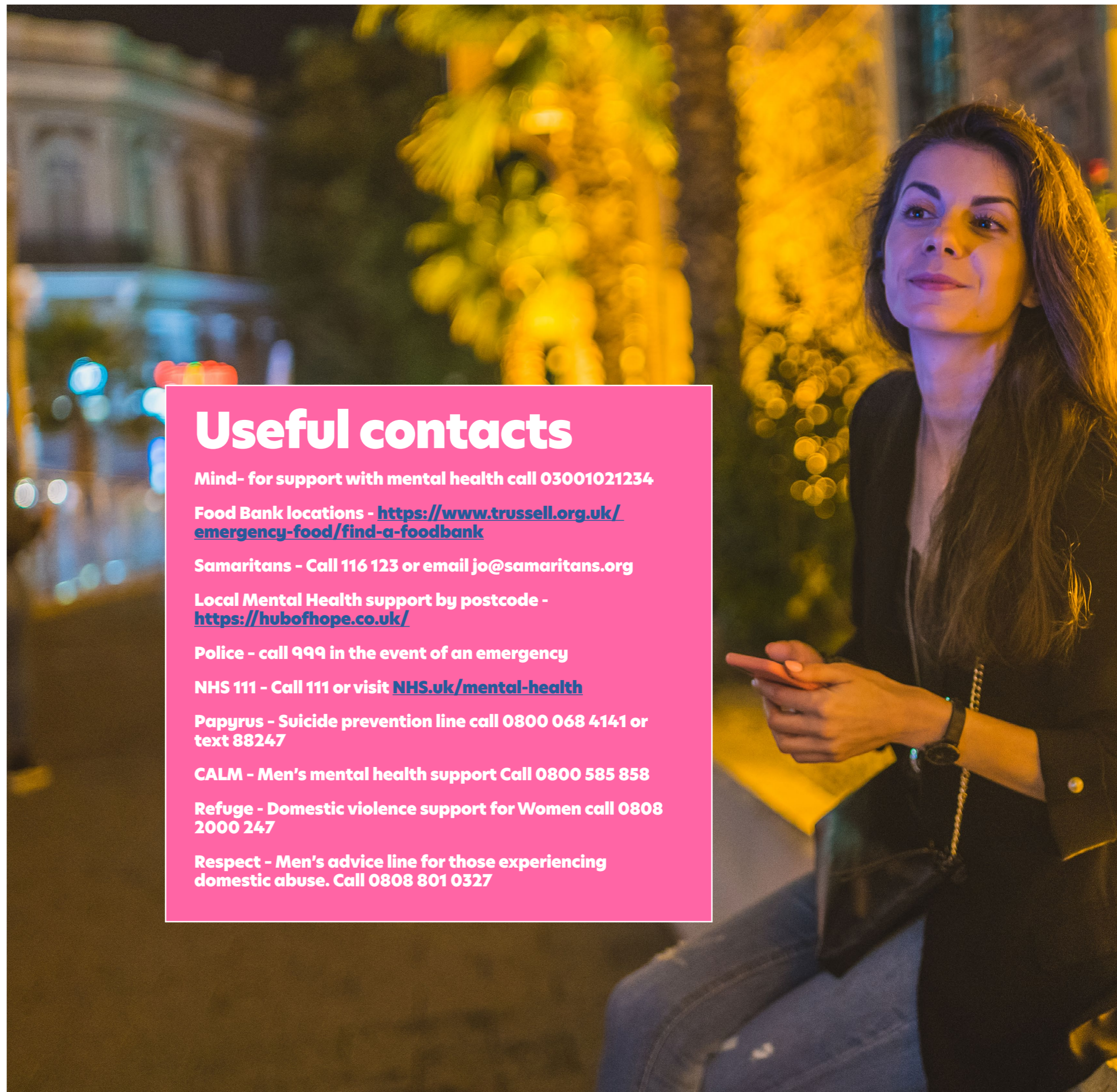
There is currently a shortage of NHS dentists available and 97% of new patients are facing challenges when trying to access a Dentist. This can lead to delayed treatment, and lack of regular check up which can cause tooth decay and poor dental hygiene. Whilst private dentists are available, they can come with costly fees, which are not always viable for all. The below website is provided by the NHS and allows you to enter your postcode and see which surgery in your area is accepting new NHS patients.

<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist/>





**Strut Safe is a volunteer-operated nonjudgmental support line who you can contact if you are going home alone until you are safe. The organization offers a safe space for individuals and their overall goal is to make sure people get home safely. You can call strut safe if you are worried about making a journey alone, and the call handler is there to keep you company from travelling from one point to another. Calls to Strut Safe are almost always free if you have inclusive minutes within your phone package. Calls to 03 numbers are charged at normal call rates depending on your mobile provider. Take a look at the information for contact details and opening times of Strut Safe here - [Strutsafe.org](https://strutsafe.org)**



## Useful contacts

**Mind** - for support with mental health call 03001021234

**Food Bank locations** - <https://www.trussell.org.uk/emergency-food/find-a-foodbank>

**Samaritans** - Call 116 123 or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

**Local Mental Health support by postcode** - <https://hubofhope.co.uk/>

**Police** - call 999 in the event of an emergency

**NHS 111** - Call 111 or visit [NHS.uk/mental-health](https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health)

**Papyrus** - Suicide prevention line call 0800 068 4141 or text 88247

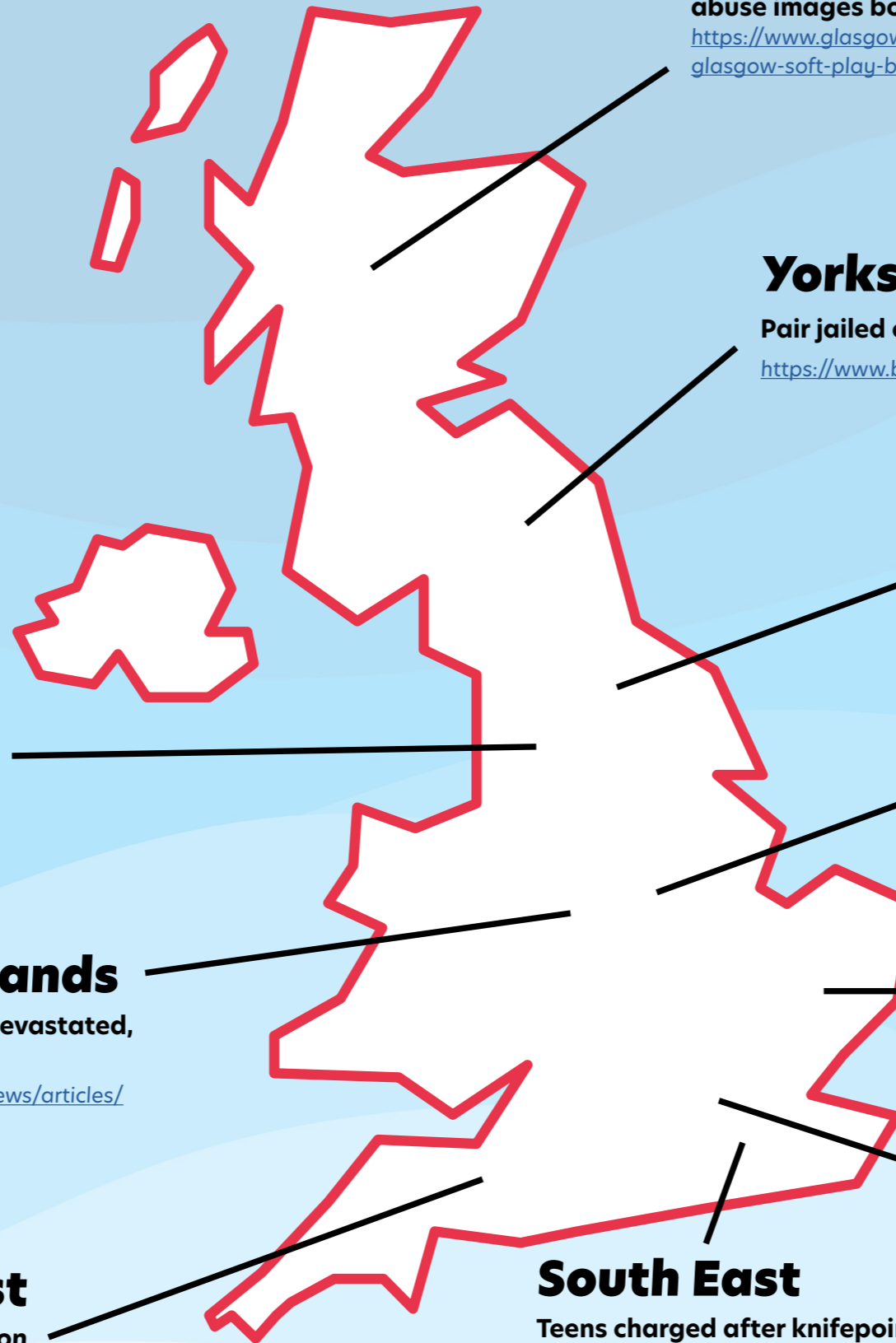
**CALM** - Men's mental health support Call 0800 585 858

**Refuge** - Domestic violence support for Women call 0808 2000 247

**Respect** - Men's advice line for those experiencing domestic abuse. Call 0808 801 0327

# Safeguarding

What's happening in your area?



## Scotland

Glasgow soft play boss caught with child sex abuse images bought infamous death house

<https://www.glasgowlive.co.uk/news/glasgow-news/glasgow-soft-play-boss-caught-30937098>



## Yorkshire and the Humber

Pair jailed over county lines drugs operation

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4nvd3923dgo>

## North East

Teen appears in court over Harvey Willgoose murder

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c17evpngvn0o>

## North West

Government's Prevent scheme closed Southport killer case 'prematurely'

<https://www.itv.com/news/2025-02-05/governments-prevent-scheme-closed-southport-killer-case-prematurely>

## East Midlands

Gunman who wore fake police uniform jailed

<https://hellorayo.co.uk/greatest-hits/east-midlands/news/gunman-fake-police-uniform-jailed/>

## West Midlands

Family of Leo Ross devastated, says aunt

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c897qp87wxno>

## East of England

Beccles man Daryl Dawes jailed after online sting chats

<https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/24910776-beccles-man-daryl-dawes-jailed-online-sting-chats/>

## South West

'The law is failing': Bill introduced after Swindon teenager killed in crash outside school

<https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2025-02-04/the-law-is-failing-bill-introduced-after-teenager-killed-in-crash-near-school>

## South East

Teens charged after knifepoint robbery in Beachborough Road, Folkestone

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/folkestone/news/teens-charged-after-knifepoint-robbery-319738/>

## London

Life in prison for man who murdered ex-girlfriend after climbing through window of Croydon home

[https://www.mylondon.news/news/south-london-news/life-prison-man-who-murdered-30923569?int\\_source=mantis\\_rec\\_top&int\\_medium=web&int\\_campaign=more\\_like\\_this\\_top](https://www.mylondon.news/news/south-london-news/life-prison-man-who-murdered-30923569?int_source=mantis_rec_top&int_medium=web&int_campaign=more_like_this_top)





# Did you know?



The sun makes a sound, but we cannot hear it! The sounds are in the form of wavelength of pressure waves which are far beyond the range humans can hear!



Snails have teeth and lots of them! They can have anything from a 1000 to 12000! They are all over the tongue of the snail!

Football teams wearing red kits play better. A review completed over the last 55 years showed teams wearing red at home matches won more than any other colour!



# What's going on in February?

Safer Internet Day 2025 | Tuesday 11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

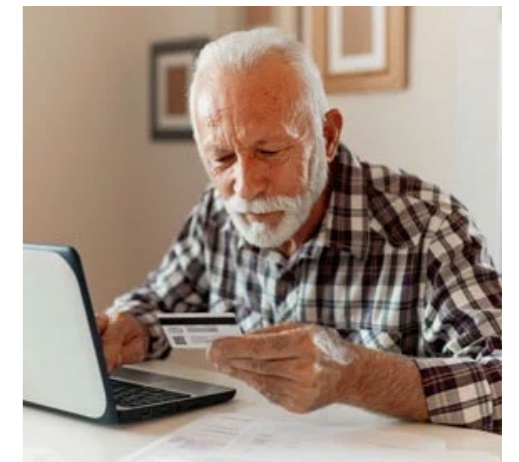
[saferinternetday.org.uk](https://saferinternetday.org.uk)

11th February

## Safer Internet Day

is taking place on 11th February 2025 which aims to raise awareness of keeping safe when using the internet. The theme this year is "Too good to be true" and the purpose is to educate people in protecting themselves and others from online scams. Take a look at the website below for some learning opportunities to upskill in your safer internet knowledge.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025>



14th February

## Valentines Day

Valentines Day will be celebrated by many on February 14th, where they will show love and appreciation to partners. Have a read of the below link to learn about the origin of Valentine's Day

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/16945378>



**We would love to hear your ideas and suggestion of content you would like to be included in our future editions. Please scan the QR code to share your thoughts and ideas:**

