Safeguarding Adolescents in London (SAIL)

Recruitment Call for Talking Heads

What is SAIL?

Safeguarding Adolescents In London (SAIL) is a resource produced to promote consistently high-quality practice by those working to keep young people safe in the capital. It seeks to bring together theory, practice and policy to equip practitioners, managers and service leaders with the information and tools they need to develop their practice and enhance the effectiveness of the adolescent safeguarding systems of which they are a part.

To enhance the content and embed the wealth of expertise of practitioners working across London we are using Talking Heads – individual video interviews – and will integrate them through the resource.

Why are we using 'Talking Heads'?

We know that practitioners are incredibly busy with the demands of their day-to-day work, and while there's a real desire to learn and reflect, there often just isn't the time.

We're building a strong foundation of written content, but we also want something that's short, sharp and impactful that can cut through the everyday noise and fit into even the busiest schedules.

We know that people remember people and that one clear message from a respected and trusted person can make a difference.

Why have you asked me?

We're asking people with credibility, specific knowledge, new insights and authentic voices to share a thought or perspective.

We want your help to remind viewers that behind all of the pages of policies, procedures and structures are principles that guide our work. We want to bring those principles to life through people who, just like them, are striving to stay connected to the 'what and the why' of adolescent safeguarding and looking for insights and inspiration.

How long should it be?

Keep it short and focused – no more than two minutes is ideal. Aim to deliver one clear message or answer one key question.

What should I say?

You'll be given a broad topic — it's up to you to bring it to life in your own way.

Here are some prompts to help you to find something short, relevant, and memorable to say:

Reflect
- What's the one idea that really sticks with you about this topic?
- What's something you wish someone had told you earlier?
- How has this topic shaped the way you work or think?
- How do you promote anti racist and inclusive practice in this area of work?
- What is important to consider when working with SEND (diagnosed and undiagnosed)
- What's one thing people often miss or misunderstand about this?

Share
- A quick story or real example that brings the idea to life
- A question you often get asked and how you usually answer it
- A challenge you've dealt with and one thing that helped
- A moment when this principle really mattered in practice

Connect
- How does this link back to core principles, purpose or practice?
- How could someone apply this in one small way today?

- What's one mindset shift that helps with this topic?
- Why does this still matter, even when things are busy?

Test It
- Use the 'lift pitch' test -- If you had 20 seconds in a lift to explain why this matters, what would you say
- If someone only remembers one sentence from your video, what should it be?

These prompts are flexible. They're only suggestions. Pick one that works for you.

This isn't about being perfect, it's about being clear, grounded, and talking person to person.

How do I record myself?

You can use your smart phone or speak with us via a recorded MS Teams meeting. Here are a few pointers;

- Frame yourself from mid-chest upwards, with your eyes about ⅔ up the screen.
- Sit or stand still, facing the camera straight on.
- You can use whatever background you usually use but we recommend something simple and ideally avoiding branded backgrounds (this dates the resource)
- Use natural light if possible (face a window – don't sit with it behind you) and avoid harsh overhead lights or deep shadows.
- Record in a quiet space – turn off fans, notifications, and close windows.

Get in Touch

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