

**To:**  
Headteachers/Managers of Education Providers  
Registered in Shropshire

Shropshire Council  
The Guildhall  
Frankwell Quay  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire  
SY3 8HQ

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025

Dear Colleague,

### **Notification of Statutory Safeguarding Audit Process 2025-2026**

I am writing to inform you that, as part of Shropshire Council's statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people in our area, we will shortly be inviting you to complete the annual statutory safeguarding audit for your setting for this academic year.

All registered education providers in Shropshire will be required to submit their audit using an online platform to ensure that all providers are compliant with their legal safeguarding duties and local safeguarding arrangements. This process replaces the previous "Section 11 audit" and templates.

#### **Audit Timeline**

##### **Audit Opens 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025:**

You will receive an invitation email from [forms@ShropshireLA.onlineaudits.org.uk](mailto:forms@ShropshireLA.onlineaudits.org.uk) with a secure link to access the audit system. You will receive an invitation email from [forms@ShropshireLA.onlineaudits.org.uk](mailto:forms@ShropshireLA.onlineaudits.org.uk) (please ensure that this email address is *whitelisted*) with a secure link to access the audit system.

##### ***Please note:***

- *Ensure the above email address is [whitelisted](#)*
- *The link in the invitation email is for you only and is not to be forwarded to anyone else. You can assign other people in your organisation to complete/access the audit once you have logged in (instructions on how to do this will be provided).*

##### **Audit Closes 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026:**

You have the duration of the Spring Term to complete the audit.

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



- [Audits Respondents Manual](#)
- Dedicated contact email: [safeguarding.audits@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:safeguarding.audits@shropshire.gov.uk)
- Launch Webinars week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (these webinars will be recorded and shared)
- Troubleshooting drop-in sessions (via Teams) throughout the period that the audit is open.

More detailed information including joining links will be contained in the invitation email and regular reminders will be sent to you.

### **Summer Term 2026:**

The Education Quality Safeguarding Team will provide indicative findings to the Education Partnership and Children's Safeguarding Partnership Boards, will review audit completion and follow the non-completion escalation process (included in the email with this letter).

Audits will be reopened in the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026 for agreed extensions (by exception only) and ongoing updates.

### **Autumn Term 2026:**

The Education Quality Safeguarding Team will report thematic findings from the audits to the Education Partnership and Children's Safeguarding Partnership Boards. Preparations will begin for the 2026-2027 audit, which will be launched again in the Spring Term.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Education Quality Safeguarding Team by emailing them at: [safeguarding.audits@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:safeguarding.audits@shropshire.gov.uk) if you have any further questions.

Thank you for your continued commitment to safeguarding children and young people in Shropshire.

Yours sincerely,



David Shaw  
Director of Children's Services  
Shropshire Council