

Web: www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk

Your Ref: Our Ref: NF/HRJ/20171129 Prof. Nick Frost Chair – NYSCB

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Room SB109 South Block County Hall Northallerton North Yorkshire DL7 8AE

29 November 2017

Dear Headteacher/Chair of Governors/Management Committees/Proprietors,

Schools Safeguarding Audit 2017/2018

For the last two years the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board (NYSCB) has undertaken an audit of the safeguarding arrangements within schools. I am pleased to report that the number of schools which responded to the Safeguarding Audit 2016/2017 increased from the previous year and has shown that schools are engaged and committed to ensuring their safeguarding arrangements. The audit provided invaluable information to the NYSCB to help direct its strategies to keep children safe in North Yorkshire.

The results of the School Safeguarding Audit 2016/2017 have been finalised and are being shared with the Learning and Improvement Subgroup prior to wider circulation. While the audit has identified some themes for the NYSCB to consider, schools across the county have good safeguarding arrangements in place.

The NYSCB had originally intended to undertake a School Safeguarding Audit for 2017/2018 which would also take into consideration the Government's reported amendments to Keeping Children Safe in Education. However, given the findings of the School Safeguarding Audit 2016/2017 and that Keeping Children Safe in Education has not been amended as was anticipated, the NYSCB has agreed to undertake the next audit of safeguarding arrangements in schools in 2018/2019.

In light of this decision a revised audit tool will not be circulated for 2017/2018 and schools are advised to continue to use the 2016/2017 audit tool to monitor and improve their safeguarding arrangements; however there is no requirement to submit a return for 2017/2018.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting the audit and your commitment to help ensure the safeguarding arrangements for children and young people in North Yorkshire.

Yours faithfully,

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Professor Nick Frost Independent Chair North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board