

## Message from the Chair

As we head into the final few weeks of the academic year, I know many of you are navigating an incredibly busy period – balancing operational demands, staff changes, and forward planning for September. This is a time when your role is both challenging and essential, and I just want to take a moment to recognise the incredible work you're doing to keep everything running smoothly.

Behind the scenes at ABLE, we've been working hard to launch the new ABLE Chat Forum within the Rewards App. Although we'd originally hoped to have it up and running by now, we took the decision to delay the launch slightly. Some technical setbacks, combined with feedback from members, made it clear that releasing it with fuller functionality, including the ability for members to start their own conversations and topics, would be far more valuable than launching in stages. Thank you for your patience. I really believe it'll be worth the wait.

Before our next conference, a new set of Terms and Conditions will appear when you next log into the app. All users will need to accept these to continue using it. This forms part of our work to strengthen GDPR practices and will give us a clear electronic audit trail of consent. We've also updated our Privacy Policies on the website – so if you're in the mood for a thrilling read, [you can find them here](#).

Looking ahead, we're already planning for the next academic year. Thanks to Frances, who's worked incredibly hard to confirm all speakers and workshops early, we're aiming to have all 2025–26 conference dates and agendas live on the website before the end of this term. That way, you can get your CPD dates booked in early and avoid the September scramble.

If you know a colleague who could benefit from being part of the ABLE community, please do recommend us. If they sign up and mention your name during registration, you'll receive 50 points in the Rewards App as a thank you for spreading the word.

I look forward to seeing lots of you at the Summer Conference on 19th June, it's always a highlight of the year and a great chance to connect in person.

Best wishes,  
Emma Cripwell  
Chair, Association of Business Leaders in Education





## 🌟Final Nominations & Voting Info! 🌟

A huge thank you to everyone who has already submitted nominations for our very first **ABLE SBL Recognition Awards** – your support has helped us shine a light on the incredible work being done by School Business Leaders across our network.

We've had some fantastic nominations already, but we'd love to see more in the following categories:


- ◆ **Wellbeing Advocate**
- ◆ **Rising Star**

If you know someone doing great work in these areas – or if that someone is you – please nominate!

- ✅ You can nominate yourself – don't be shy about celebrating your own achievements!
- ✅ Nominations are confidential – we won't share who nominated whom.

 **New nomination deadline: Wednesday 4 June**

👉 <https://forms.office.com/e/hqnDABwuL7>

 Voting Opens Friday!

We're excited to announce that voting will run from 6am on Friday 6 June to 5pm on Friday 13 June.

Keep an eye on your inbox – you'll receive a link to vote on the morning of Friday 6 June. Help us celebrate the brilliant individuals who go above and beyond in their roles every day.

🏆 Winners will be announced at the ABLE Summer Conference on Wednesday 19 June, after lunch.

This is just the beginning – we hope to grow the SBL Recognition Awards each year, making them bigger, better, and even more impactful.

Thank you for being part of this exciting new chapter for ABLE!

# Agenda

**08:30 - 09:00**

Registration, Exhibition and Coffee

**09:00-09:15**

Welcome update, app awards to members-  
Chair, Emma Cripwell

**09:15-09:30**

Partner Updates- SAS, Breedon, Atom IT

**09:30-09:35**

Sponsor Presentation- Arbor

**09:45- 10:30**

Keynote- Negotiation and Thinking Skills –  
Victoria Maitland, Laughology

**10:30- 11:15**

Refreshments, Exhibition and Coffee

**11:15-12:15**

Choice of workshops

1. Team Building Skills – Victoria Maitland, Laughology
2. Standing out from the crowd – 5 essential marketing tactics for schools– Justin Smith
3. Top 5 Essentials for Cyber Security – Gary Hardy – Atom IT

**12:15-13:15**

Lunch, Exhibition and Networking

**13:15-13:30**

ABLE School Business Leader Recognition  
Awards

**13:30-14:15**

Keyote- Beyond the Pressure: Thriving In  
Challenge and Change – Rachael Edmondson-  
Clarke

**14:15-14:35**

Tea/coffee, complete evaluation, app  
questions

**14:35-15:35**

Choice of workshops

1. Thriving in Challenge and Change: Practical Strategies for Everyday Success – Rachael Edmondson-Clarke
2. Play Areas and Outdoor Learning – pitching to funders for your school projects– Justin Smith
3. Emergency Planning- Andrea Gardner, Leics County Council

**15:35**

Raffle Results

**Sponsor**



**Arbor**

**Book Now! >**

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## Safer Recruitment in Education: Top Tips and Legal Must-Knows

Recruiting the right people into education settings is about more than just filling a vacancy – it's about ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Whether you're recruiting for teaching staff, administrators, or volunteers, safer recruitment should be a non-negotiable part of your process.

**Here's a helpful guide to safer recruitment, including top tips, efficient processes, and key legal requirements every school business leader should be aware of.**

### What Is Safer Recruitment?

Safer recruitment is a set of practices designed to ensure that people who work with children and vulnerable adults are suitable for their roles. It forms part of a wider safeguarding approach and is a statutory requirement for schools and academies under the Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) statutory guidance.

### Legal Requirements

According to KCSIE 2024, your recruitment processes must include:

- An up-to-date DBS check (Enhanced with barred list check where appropriate)
- Verification of identity, right to work in the UK, and professional qualifications
- At least two professional references (one from the most recent employer)
- A full employment history check, with gaps explored and documented
- Prohibition from teaching checks for teaching staff and TA's
- Section 128 checks for management positions in academies, free schools and independent schools

Even for temporary, agency or volunteer roles, the level of vetting must be appropriate to the risks involved.

### Efficient Processes That Work

Managing safer recruitment doesn't need to be burdensome. Here are some process tweaks that save time while staying compliant:

#### 1. Work with trusted education-specific supply agencies

Reputable education agencies should complete all required pre-employment checks before putting a candidate forward. This can significantly speed up recruitment, especially for short-notice or temporary roles. However, you must still receive and verify all documentation from the agency before the individual starts in school – even if it's a same-day placement.





## **2. Pre-populate templates**

Use standardised job descriptions and person specifications that include safeguarding statements and required qualifications clearly stated.

## **3. Use an applicant tracking system (ATS)**

Platforms like MyNewTerm or Eteach can streamline the recruitment journey, storing applications, referencing forms and pre-employment checks in one place.

## **4. Train your panel**

Ensure every recruitment panel includes at least one person with up-to-date safer recruitment training – available through NSPCC or the Safer Recruitment Consortium.

## **5. Create a checklist**

Standardise your process with a safer recruitment checklist – essential for SLT, HR and admin teams to ensure consistency.

## **6. Keep your SCR (Single Central Record) audit-ready**

Update your SCR in real time and schedule regular spot-checks to ensure compliance across your workforce, including agency and volunteer staff.

## **Practical Tips for Streamlining Safer Recruitment**

- Introduce a two-stage interview process – the first online to assess basic suitability, followed by an in-person panel with scenario-based safeguarding questions.
- Clearly labelled folders (colour-coded if helpful) or digital labels for each new starter – for example, red for pending checks, green when complete – to make tracking progress simple and visual.
- Make safeguarding questions part of reference calls, not just written forms. Verbal conversations can reveal far more insight.
- Share a clear recruitment checklist with all staff involved in hiring, so everyone understands the process and expectations.
- Set calendar reminders for recurring checks (e.g. DBS rechecks or visa expiry dates) to ensure nothing slips through the net.

## **Remember**

Safer recruitment is everyone's responsibility. Embedding a safeguarding culture into recruitment – including when using agencies – sends a clear message: your school is committed to pupil safety above all else.

If you're unsure whether your current processes are compliant, consider a safer recruitment audit or reach out to your local safeguarding board for support.



# BREEDON



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[www.breedonelectricalservices.co.uk](http://www.breedonelectricalservices.co.uk)

**EDUCATION • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL**

# BREEDON

Breedon have been Partners with ABLE since 2017 and already work extensively with many of the membership.

Based in Bulwell, we deliver full facilities management solutions to over 400 schools throughout Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire & Leicestershire. We are proud to be able to say, we employ engineers that are sensitive and considerate to the needs of each individual site we work at, in addition to always holding a current enhanced DBS check.

Listed below are our core services, some of which may not be applicable to your individual site, but as we work with so many schools across the East Midlands, we know there will be requirements that we can help you with and often reduce the need to have multiple providers. In addition, do please take a moment to view our website, [www.breedonelectricalservices.co.uk](http://www.breedonelectricalservices.co.uk) where you will also find several case studies. We appreciate you of course will already have a few providers, but please do contact us for an alternative quotation, and of course do test us on our excellent speed of response.

Breedon can assist with the following:

- Automated gate / barrier entry systems (vehicle & pedestrian) installation and maintenance, plus initial risk assessments. We are Gate Safe and CAME accredited.
- Automatic door systems – ADSA accredited.
- Door access controls – normally Net2 Paxton controls, installation & maintenance. We are Paxton accredited.
- CCTV
- 5-year fixed wire testing (we also offer annual – 20% testing per annum for budgeting and cost-fixing purposes).
- Installation, maintenance & servicing of Fire Alarm and Detection systems.
- Emergency Lighting tests.
- Installation of full & part LED lighting projects.
- Intruder alarm maintenance & monitoring.
- IT data cable installations.
- PIR door entry / exit systems (also non-touch systems, reducing the need for traditional green push-to-exit buttons).
- All ad-hoc urgent remedial works, large or small.

We are also accredited to install Electrical Vehicle (EV) charging points and Bodet site lockdown PA systems

You can be rest assured that the work will always be undertaken by fully qualified NIC EIC electrical engineers, and risk assessments / method statements will be supplied in advance. Site Health & Safety and PPE requirements are always fully adhered to and communicated prior to any attendance. We also have an out-of-hours service to attend to any emergencies.

It would be an honour to establish a long-term relationship with your business and please do treat us as your trusted advisor for any matters relating to electrical, fire and security.

If you are attending the next conference, do pop over to our exhibition stand say hello!



## How to Keep Your Mobile Phone Safe in Public: Addressing the Rise in Street Theft

Using your mobile phone in public has become second nature—but it can make you an easy target. Mobile phone theft is rising sharply across the UK, with thieves on mopeds, bikes, and e-bikes snatching phones straight from people's hands in broad daylight. It's a scary thought, so I wanted to give our members some practical advice to help you stay one step ahead and protect your phone, data, and peace of mind.

### Mobile Phone Theft on the Rise in the East Midlands

Recent crime figures highlight the growing concern:

- East Midlands: In the year ending March 2025, there were 3,000 reported "theft from the person" offences, marking a 0.4% increase from the previous year. This equates to an annual crime rate of 0.6 per 1,000 people, which is 27% of the national average.
- County Breakdown:
  - Nottinghamshire: 910 offences
  - Leicestershire: 873 offences
  - Derbyshire: 590 offences
  - Lincolnshire: 355 offences
  - Northamptonshire: 249 offences
  - Rutland: 6 offences

These statistics underscore the importance of vigilance and proactive measures to safeguard your mobile devices.

## Top Tips to Keep Your Phone Safe in Public

### Stay Aware of Your Surroundings

Avoid using your phone in busy or unfamiliar areas, especially while walking. If you must use it, stand with your back to a wall or face away from the road so no one can approach you from behind.

### Keep it Tucked Away

Don't walk around with your phone in your hand. Keep it in a zipped bag or secure pocket when not in use.

### Use a Wrist Strap or Lanyard

These affordable accessories make it harder for thieves to snatch your phone and run.

### Turn on Location and Security Settings

**Enable:**

1. Find My iPhone (Apple)
2. Find My Device (Android)

**Activate a screen lock using a PIN, fingerprint, or facial recognition.**



## Limit What's Visible on Your Lock Screen

Disable message previews and hide sensitive notifications so if your phone is snatched, personal data isn't immediately accessible.

## How to Wipe Your Phone Remotely If It's Stolen

If the worst happens, act fast to protect your data:

### For Android:

1. Visit [android.com/find](https://android.com/find)
2. Sign in with your Google account.
3. Select your device.
4. Click "Erase Device".

### For iPhone:

1. Visit [icloud.com/find](https://icloud.com/find)
2. Log in with your Apple ID.
3. Select the lost device.
4. Click "Erase iPhone".

⚠ Once the phone is wiped, you can no longer track it. But your data will be protected.

## Use a Smartwatch to Stay Safe and Connected

One of the best ways to keep your phone hidden—but stay connected—is by using a smartwatch.

### Here's how it helps:

#### Hands-Free Notifications

See calls, messages, calendar alerts, and more without taking out your phone.

#### Quick Responses

Reply to texts or accept calls from your wrist—no fumbling around with your phone in public.

#### Secure Payments

Use Apple Pay or Google Pay on your watch to pay for travel, coffee, or shopping—no need for a phone or wallet.

#### Discreet and Safe

You're less likely to be targeted if you're not visibly using a phone.

#### Locate Your Phone

If your phone is nearby but misplaced, you can use your watch to ping or ring it—handy at home or on the move.

💡 Bonus tip: Choose a smartwatch with 4G and GPS if you want to leave your phone behind completely when walking or running.

## Final Thoughts

With street theft on the rise, protecting your phone isn't just about the device—it's about your data, identity, and safety. Whether it's using a smartwatch to reduce risk, securing your phone settings, or knowing how to wipe your device remotely, taking a few simple steps can give you peace of mind.

# Atom IT



**ATOM IT**  
SUPPORTING  
OUR  
SCHOOLS  
WHEN THEY  
NEED IT  
MOST

## STOP

Paying extra every time you have an emergency

Managing multiple contracts for support, broadband, anti-virus, device procurement/leasing and Microsoft licensing

Worrying that your current provider has no-one to back them up

Waiting....

## START

Relying on an Engineer who'll always turn up when you need them

Feeling safe in the knowledge that you have a whole Team looking after you

Getting the best advice about your IT now, and plan a way forward with Atom

Calling Atom... **0800 907 8609**

# Atom IT

## Get a new instant quote online, for simple, tailored IT Support from Atom IT

At Atom we support the people who use technology to teach, learn and manage in schools. The IT systems and services you use every day are critical to the daily operation of your school, and can often seem complex, bewildering and frustrating!

### **We've tried to simplify things...**

New procurement rules being adopted in February 2025 mean that you need to examine the value you receive from your IT supplier.

DfE guidelines, cybersecurity requirements and closer Ofsted inspection of KCSIE standards are all increasing the demands on your IT provision - and your budget.

Atom aren't the cheapest provider, but we do believe we're the best value, and may well be cheaper than your current provider. You'll never know unless you take a look...

Access the quote tool via the button below. You won't be asked for any information or required to register or log in.

Please read the info to select your options. You can print the quote or ask us any questions as you work through it.

NB - if you use the contact us icon on the top right of the quote you'll have to enter your name, email address and organisation, so we know who you are.





# The UK's Leading Provider of Whole School Wellbeing and Staff Absence Insurance

Schools Advisory Service have been working with schools for over 25 years. DfE Recommended through the CPC Framework, our role is to make a difference to the schools of today by preventing and reducing absence, making the greatest impact for tomorrow.

## Prevent and Reduce Absence

With our comprehensive wellbeing package, your school will benefit from a wide range of services and the expertise of our wellbeing experts dedicated to supporting and enhancing the wellbeing of your whole school community.

## Complimentary Wellbeing

- ♥ Unlimited Counselling
- ♥ Cancer & Chronic Conditions Support
- ♥ GP Phone & Video Consultations
- ♥ Menopause Support
- ♥ 24 Hour Support Through Our App
- ♥ Leadership Supervision
- ♥ Occupational Health Support
- ♥ Nurse Support
- ♥ Physiotherapy
- ♥ Private Medical Operations
- ♥ Pupil Counselling
- ♥ Annual Health Screens
- ♥ Weight Management
- ♥ Crisis Support
- ♥ Flu Jabs
- + **Plus More!**

## The Only Provider Offering:



**In-House Nurses and Experts**



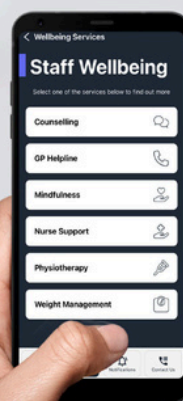
**On-Site Health Screening**



**Complete Leadership**



**Unlimited Counselling**



## Wellbeing App

Staff can download our app or call our team to access wellbeing. No referral required.





## Introducing MATChat: Discussions for Executive Leaders

At Schools Advisory Service (SAS) our mission is to make a difference in every school, from the staffroom to the classroom. We provide market-leading absence insurance policies that protect budgets and include comprehensive wellbeing support from our in-house experts. Our goal is to reduce absences, build resilience, and foster a thriving educational environment for the whole school community.

We have partnered with Laura Williams to bring you a live online series tailored for Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) leaders. Each episode will explore niche topics that are critical to MAT leadership today, featuring expert insights from experienced experts and leaders.

In each session, we'll delve into the challenges MATs are currently facing – from legal aspects of growth and the rebrokering process, to restructuring business functions and strategic leadership. Our experts guests, who have all led through these challenges, will share practical insights and strategic advice based on their real-world experiences in an open conversation format.

**You can watch previous episodes and sign up for future episodes here:**

<https://schooladvice.co.uk/matchat>

### **Previous Episodes:**

- Strategic Leadership: Culture, Capacity & Change Management with Dominic Broad
- Forum Strategy Presents: Five Years of the 'Being the CEO' Report
- The Legal Aspects of Growth & Rebrokering: Do's and Don'ts with Chris Whitmore

### **Future episodes:**

- 4-Year Trust Transformation Strategy with Jonny Coates
- Why Rebrokering is Not a Taboo with Zoe Heath
- The Wellbeing Advantage: How To Unlock High Performance With Jamie Peacock

# Supporting Real People, in Real Time.



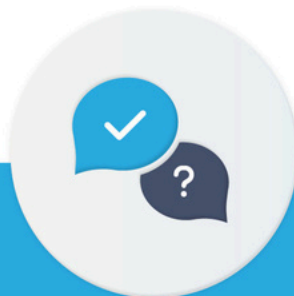
## Leadership Supervision

Schools Advisory Service is now offering a dedicated supervision support service specifically for schools. This initiative helps school leaders manage job stress, foster emotional resilience and promote professional growth through reflective sessions.

### Proactive



### Supportive



### Reactive



**Enhancing Staff Wellbeing and Professional Growth**

*Contact our Sales Team to learn more:*

**01773 814 400 [sales@uk-sas.co.uk](mailto:sales@uk-sas.co.uk)**

## Mindfulness for Beginners

Starting mindfulness can seem daunting, especially for beginners. It can feel overwhelming, but with the support of our mindfulness teacher, June Brade, you can learn how to easily incorporate small changes into your day-to-day life. Working in education, we all know you're time-poor. This is where mindfulness is beneficial: it takes no or very little time. You're not Buddhist monks; you don't have to sit for hours meditating. Just 10 minutes a day can have a considerable impact on reducing stress and anxiety, helping to build confidence and self-esteem.

### What's Mindfulness?

Mindfulness is all about staying in the moment. It's about being aware of your thoughts, feelings, and surroundings without judging them. Basically, just focus on what's happening right now.

### Getting Started with Mindfulness

1. Find a Quiet Spot Pick a comfortable, quiet place where you can relax without interruptions. Sit however feels good to you—on a chair, cushion, or the floor.
2. Breathe Easy Close your eyes or lower your gaze. Take a few deep breaths and then settle into your normal breathing. Notice how your breath feels as you inhale and exhale.
3. Stay in the Now Pay attention to your thoughts, feelings, or any sensations. If your mind starts to drift (and it will), gently bring your attention back to your breath.
4. Go Slowly Start with just 2–5 minutes each day. As you get more comfortable, you can add more time.

### Mindfulness Activities for Beginners

1. Body Scan Lie down or sit comfortably. Focus on each part of your body, starting from your toes up to your head. Notice any sensations of relaxation, tension, or pain.
2. Mindful Walking Walk at a relaxed pace and pay close attention to each step. Feel your feet touching the ground and observe your surroundings.
3. Eating Mindfully Eat slowly and savour every bite. Pay attention to the taste, texture, and smell of your food.
4. 5-4-3-2-1 Grounding Technique Try to Spot:
  - 5 things you can see,
  - 4 things you can feel,
  - 3 things you can hear,
  - 2 things you can smell, and
  - 1 thing you can taste.
  - This technique anchors you in the present moment.

### Tips for Beginners

- Stay Calm: Mindfulness improves with practice. Try guided meditations [here](#).
- Be Mindful Anywhere: Incorporate mindfulness into everyday tasks like washing dishes or brushing your teeth.
- Keep it Up: Practising every day, even briefly, is more effective than long, irregular sessions.

### Benefits You'll See Over Time

- Say goodbye to stress and anxiety.
- Boost your focus and concentration.
- Find more balance in your emotions.
- Enjoy and appreciate life's small moments more.

Start small, stay consistent, and mindfulness can significantly improve your wellbeing. Find out more about our mindfulness support and courses [here](#)



**June Brade,**  
**Mindfulness Teacher**



## **Tell us About Your Estate - MAC Launches The School Estate Practitioner Survey!**

MAC Construction Consultants, in partnership with Jo Marchant MBE, have collaborated to undertake the first 'School Estate Practitioner' survey.

While there is evidence from a variety of sources that the school estate requires significant investment, there remains a gap in the evidence base in terms of the direct experience of estates professionals and other practitioners such as business and operational leaders.

We really value your professional insight and welcome your input and would be very grateful if you could spend just five minutes completing our survey using this [link](#) or simply scan the QR code below.



The survey will deliver new data and insights from the practitioners who are at the forefront of managing the school estate and have first-hand knowledge of the challenges (and opportunities) that it presents.

By taking the survey you can be entered into a draw to win 1 of 50 copies of 'The School Premises Handbook' written by Jo Marchant MBE!

All responses will be treated confidentially and we will publish the anonymised results in Autumn 2025 via MAC's website and social media channels. We also hope to present the results at various conferences and events so watch this space for more information!



# PE, SPORT & EDUCATION APPRENTICESHIPS

**BUDGET FRIENDLY  
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**UP TO 100% FUNDED  
TRAINING**

**FREE RECRUITMENT  
AND SUPPORT**



**inspire+**

Healthy, Happy, Active Young People

**PROUD TO BE A CHARITY**



inspire+ is a PE, sport, and education charity established in 2011. Since becoming a training provider in 2017, inspire+ has evolved into one of the country's largest and most well-respected PE and school sport apprenticeship providers. As a charity, the quality of our delivery is everything to us, and we are proud to have trained over 600 apprentices, mostly employed in schools.

## How an apprentice can support your school?

- Supporting PE lessons and classroom activities
- Developing programmes of study and lessons for classes and pupils
- Leading breakfast and after-school clubs
- Mentoring for Gifted & Talented and/or low self-esteem for pupils with SEN or disabilities



# Apprenticeship Programmes

**2** LEVEL 2

Duration - 13 months\*

Community Activator Coach

Playworker **In Development**

**4** LEVEL 4

Duration - 18 months\*

School Sport Coach

**3** LEVEL 3

Duration - 15 - 18 months\*

Teaching Assistant (PE Focus)

Community Sport and Health Officer

**5** LEVEL 5

Duration - 24 months\*

Specialist Training Assistant

- Social and Emotional Well-being Option
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Option
- Curriculum Provision Specialist Option

\*\*\*  
**NEW**  
\*\*\*



## Our Free Support for Schools

We're here to support you every step of the way, completely **free of charge**, whether you appoint a candidate or not.

### Recruitment

We advertise, shortlist, interview, and recommend the best-fit candidates.

### Training

Weekly sessions blend practical skills and theory, led by expert tutors.

### Documentation

We help with all key documents from contracts to End Point Assessment.

### Ongoing Support

Each apprentice has a dedicated tutor with regular workplace visits.

“

*Our apprentice has quickly become an invaluable asset. She has forged good relationships with children and staff. She is already making a difference to children's lives!*

*Sheriden Edwards, Head Teacher,  
Harlaxton and Denton Primary School*

**Contact Us**

**01476 578137**

[educationteam@inspireplus.org.uk](mailto:educationteam@inspireplus.org.uk)



[www.inspireplus.org.uk](http://www.inspireplus.org.uk)

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Charity Number : 1144507

**Scan the code**  
For more info





**Speak out. Stay safe.** is a safeguarding programme for children aged 5-11.

It is available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands and is an effective way to support school's safeguarding duties. The programme content links directly to the curriculum, helping teachers reinforce key messages about abuse and neglect as part of their school's teaching on relationships.

Our programme helps children understand:

- abuse in all its forms and how to recognise signs of abuse
- that abuse is never a child's fault and that they have the right to be safe
- where to get help and the sources of help available to them, including our Childline service

We are delighted to share with you that we have our refreshed primary school assemblies and resources, which include:

- Virtual assemblies for children aged 5-7 and 7-11, available in English, Welsh and BSL – delivered by teachers to their classes.
- Follow on lesson plans with engaging activities and resources to help re-enforce and embed our key messages.
- Face-to-face workshops for children aged 6-7 and 9-11 delivered by NSPCC volunteers (schools can talk to us about availability for their area).
- A named, local NSPCC Schools Co-ordinator who can answer any questions schools have about the programme and provide updates about other NSPCC support, resources and training on offer.

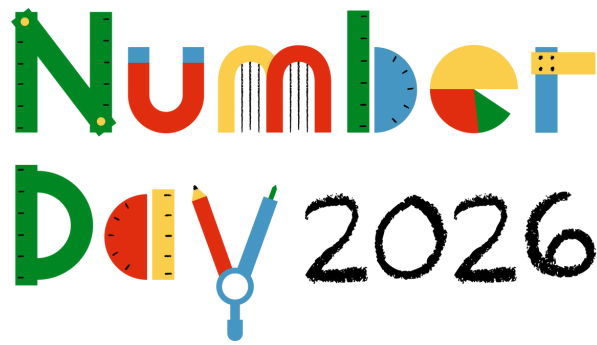
We also have a SEND Speak out. Stay safe. programme available.

For more details, please visit our website [nspcc.org.uk/speakout](https://nspcc.org.uk/speakout) where schools can register their interest and will then be contacted by a local Schools Coordinator.

## Additional resources

To complement the assembly, we have produced some resources that can be used by parents/carers to enable further discussion whilst doing activities with their children. These are hosted on the NSPCC website at [www.nspcc.org.uk/activities](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/activities)

Further resources are available on NSPCC webpages to support schools and parents/carers or you can go directly to [NSPCC Learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning) to access this information.



Number Day is an inclusive maths-inspired fundraising day for children in nursery right through to secondary school, with fun, free maths resources, and activities like ‘dress up for digits’ and the popular Buddy’s Key Challenge, Number Day is the perfect way to get pupils involved with learning and fundraising.

After registering, schools and nurseries will receive everything they need from the Number Day resources site to make the event a success.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Wednesday 12 November 2025**

Number Day 2026 launch

Science Kitchen, University of Leicester

From 10.30am

More details to follow







# Shining a Light on School Business Leaders: Recognition for the Vital Role of SBMs

**As a School Business Manager (SBM), you are the backbone of your school's operations. Whether it's managing budgets, ensuring compliance, or negotiating contracts, the scope of your role is immense and invaluable. Yet, too often, your hard work goes unnoticed.**

At the Association of Business Leaders in Education (ABLE), we firmly believe it's time to change that narrative. Your role deserves recognition, respect, and support that reflects the impact you have on the success of your school and its pupils.

## **Why Recognition Matters**

Recognition isn't just about receiving praise—it's about valuing your expertise and ensuring others appreciate the strategic contribution you bring to your school. It's about fostering a culture where your role is acknowledged as vital to school leadership and enabling you to access the professional development and support you need to thrive.

At ABLE, we know how transformative it can be when SBMs feel seen and heard. Recognition boosts morale, strengthens your professional identity, and elevates the profile of school business management as a critical leadership role.

## **Share Your Success Stories**

We know you're doing incredible work, and we want to showcase it. ABLE is committed to celebrating the achievements of our members by featuring your success stories in our newsletters, blogs, and social media platforms. This is your chance to share your experiences and inspire others within the SBM community.

From innovative cost-saving initiatives to streamlining operations or improving pupil outcomes through effective resource management—your stories matter. By sharing them, you not only gain recognition for your work but also help to raise the profile of the profession as a whole.

## How You Can Get Involved

We are actively seeking:

- **Member Articles:** Share your insights, challenges, and achievements in your own words.
- **Case Studies:** Highlight specific projects or initiatives you've implemented, along with the outcomes.
- **Thought Leadership:** Offer advice or reflections on the evolving role of SBMs and the challenges you face.

These contributions will not only feature in our newsletters and blogs but also be promoted via our wider network, amplifying your voice and sharing your expertise with colleagues across the sector.

## ABLE's Ongoing Commitment

We are here to champion you and ensure your role is properly valued. From hosting professional development opportunities to offering networking platforms and providing resources tailored to your needs, ABLE is dedicated to supporting SBMs every step of the way.

By sharing your successes and celebrating each other's achievements, we can continue to raise the profile of school business management and demonstrate just how critical your role is in shaping the future of education.

**If you'd like to be featured or want to share your story, please [click here](#) to get in touch with Emma Cripwell.**

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# COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ABLE is organised by a committee of volunteer educational professionals and supported by select partner companies as a non-profit organisation, to offer support, training and up to date educational guidance.



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ABLE memberships are subsidised by the fees paid by our corporate partners and exhibitors. Without them all costs would be passed onto our members.



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