

Child Protection & Safeguarding Risk Assessment:



Event name: School Webinars throughout Academic Year 2026-27

Location: Online, Zoom Webinar

Date of event: School webinars throughout 2026-27

Assessor's name: Laura Eastwood

Assessor's role: Head of Community Engagement & Designated Safeguarding Officer, Born Free

Reviewed by: Charlie Smith, Senior Education Officer

Audience: The primary audience is made up of groups of primary (5-11 years) and/or secondary school-aged (11-16 years) children, accompanied by their teachers/support staff. Also in attendance will be home-educated students or home-educator groups along with their parents/ guardians, as well as a small number of adults including speakers and Born Free staff. Each webinar will be aimed at different age ranges or school cohorts, including on some occasions students in college or sixth form (16-18 years), but this will be made clear on the event registration page. In addition, as these are publicly advertised events, members of the public may also attend.

Risk	What are the hazards?	Probability	Impact	Risk	Notes / Actions to be taken	Action by whom?	Action by when?
Student / teacher data	Identifying information visible, including on recordings	Medium	Severe	High	- During the session all audience members will be muted, and their cameras will be turned off, however for those students joining individually/as part of home-educator groups, comments can be written in the chat box or Q+A box and will be visible to other participants. Whilst this won't be visible on a recording, Born Free will suggest at the start of every session that: - For group attendance, school, class or teacher names are used - For home-educated attendees, a first name only, or parent name. - Q+A box settings will enable anonymous questions to be asked. - For any sessions that are recorded, sections of the recording used for educational purposes, future events or programme promotion will be edited to ensure that no identifying information is included/ visible. - During sessions, wherever possible, only first names of young attendees will be mentioned, rather than full names. - When final edited recordings have been created, any raw, unedited footage will be permanently deleted, unless maintained for historical value. - Teachers/Parents will be able to review the measures Born Free has put in place on the following webpage: www.bornfree.org.uk/school-events.	Teachers / Parents / Born Free	Before the day / after event
	Identifying information visible to other participants	Medium	Medium	Medium	- During the discussion all audience members will be muted, and their cameras will be turned off, however for those students joining individually/as part of home-educator groups, comments can be written in the chat box and will be visible to other participants. - For onscreen names, we would suggest at the start of every session that: - For group attendance, school, class or teacher names are used - For home-educated attendees, a first name only, or parent name. - Q+A box settings will enable anonymous questions to be asked. - When asking questions, we would suggest that: - Only first names of students/ children are used. - For home-educated attendees, a first name only, or parent name. - Where settings allow, screengrabs and note-taking will be disabled. - Where settings allow, AI meeting assistants, agents or note-takers will be blocked. Any attending the webinar will be removed immediately.	Teachers / Parents / Born Free	On the day / Ongoing

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	Collecting and storing data	Medium	Severe	High	- Parent/teacher/school staff email address and name will be collected when they sign up for the event; no student data will be collected. - Any data will be handled as per Born Free's Privacy Policy - www.bornfree.org.uk/privacy-policy	Born Free	Ongoing
Children becoming distressed or stressed	Children becoming stressed by the topic or content	Negligible	Medium	Effectively Zero	- The impact is dependent on individual circumstances. Teachers/ parents/ guardians are advised to supervise children throughout the session to and take appropriate action if an individual does become distressed. - A suggested age-range is provided on every school webinar registration page, so that teachers/parents/guardians can determine whether content is appropriate. - The host/ invited guests on the panel will be asked to ensure the discussion remains positive and focussed on achievable actions and that only age-appropriate images are shown.	Host / Panel	On the day
Student behaviour	Disruption to webinar via chatbox/ Q+A box	Low	Medium	Low	- During the webinar all audience members will be muted, and their cameras will be turned off, however comments can be written in the chatbox or Q+A box and will be visible to other participants. - At least one member of Born Free staff will always be present to monitor the contents of the chatbox/ Q+A box. - Born Free staff will always remind attendees to be kind and thoughtful and mindful of the target audience when posting in the chatbox/ Q+A box at the beginning of each webinar. - Teachers/parents are requested to supervise and take responsibility for their students/ children, including their removal from the discussion (as appropriate). Born Free suggests that secondary school audiences join webinars as a class, rather than via individual laptops. - If an incident occurs and a student posts offensive or disruptive content they will be removed from the webinar immediately, a record will be made, and the school/parent of the disruptive student will be contacted. - In the event that a member of the public joining the webinar posts offensive or disruptive content they will be removed from the webinar immediately and wherever possible blocked from all future webinars. - Attendees are made aware that there may be members of the public in attendance at the beginning of every session.	Teachers / Parents / Born Free	Before event / On the day
	Children becoming victims of bullying	Low	Medium	Low	- Teachers/parents are requested to supervise and take responsibility for their students/ children, including their removal from the discussion (as appropriate). Born Free suggests that secondary school audiences join webinars as a class, rather than via individual laptops. - Members of the Born Free team facilitating the discussion/chat/Q+A will remain vigilant for bullying messages and report any concerns to the relevant teaching staff or parent and/or eject any audience member posting such messages. - At least one member of Born Free staff will always be present to monitor the contents of the chatbox/ Q+A box.	All responsible adults	On the day

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					- Where settings allow, screenshots and note-taking will be disabled. - Where settings allow, AI meeting assistants, agents or note-takers will be blocked. Any attending the webinar will be removed immediately.		
Exposure to dangerous or inappropriate behaviour	Children becoming exposed to strong or violent language	Low	Medium	Low	- All attendees must register in order to attend. Born Free can remove any attendee's registration ahead of the webinar, should they deem it appropriate to do so. - Teachers/parents will be asked to supervise and take responsibility for the behaviour and therefore language of their students while online. Born Free suggests that secondary school audiences join webinars as a class, rather than via individual laptops. - A suggested age-range is provided on every school webinar registration page, so that teachers can determine whether content is appropriate. - At least one member of Born Free staff will always be present to monitor the contents of the chatbox/ Q+A box. - Born Free staff will always remind attendees to be kind and thoughtful and mindful of the target audience when posting in the chatbox/ Q+A box at the beginning of each webinar. - In addition, all Born Free staff and discussion panellists will be reminded (before the event) to use age-appropriate language and imagery throughout the event. - In the event that a member of the public joining the webinar posts offensive or disruptive content they will be removed from the webinar immediately and wherever possible blocked from all future webinars.	All responsible adults	On the day

Signed: *Laura Eastwood*

Date: 04/08/26

	LIKELIHOOD OF HAZARD				
CONSEQUENCE OF HAZARD		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
	Severe	High	High	Medium	Effectively Zero
	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Effectively Zero
	Low	Medium	Low	Low	Effectively Zero
	Negligible	Effectively Zero	Effectively Zero	Effectively Zero	Effectively Zero