

Online Safeguarding Newsletter

October 2019



Welcome

Welcome to the first online safeguarding newsletter. The newsletter has been produced by the Kent and Medway Children and Adults Online Safeguarding Group to help raise awareness on online safeguarding.

Kent and Medway Online Safeguarding Champions

As online safety remains a national and local priority the Kent and Medway Online Safeguarding Group have established a multi-agency network of 'Online Safeguarding Champions'. The purpose of an online champion is to:

- Contribute to and implement Kent and Medway's Online Safeguarding Strategy.
- Support the development of safe, responsive and effective services for children, young people and adults who experience or are vulnerable to online safeguarding risks.
- Enhance professional and public awareness on online safeguarding risks in Kent and Medway.

Champions are expected to attend Online Champion Forums, which take place on a quarterly basis, to ensure knowledge is kept up to date.

For more information on please view the Online Champion Job Description. If you would like to become an Online Champion for your organisation please complete and return the job description to catherine.hampson@kent.gov.uk.



Online
Safeguarding Cham

Save the Date – Safer Internet Day 11th February 2020

The aim of Safer Internet Day is to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

Safer Internet Day will be on the 11th February 2020. The day will be celebrated globally with the theme: **'Together for a better internet'**.

For more information and to see how your agency can get involved please visit :

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2020>



Child Abuse Images and Associated Grooming Conference – Wednesday 6th November 2019

In partnership with the Marie Collins Foundation, the Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership will be hosting a full day conference around online child abuse images and associated grooming.

The conference will provide practitioners the opportunity to consider in depth, the impact on victims of abusive images and associated grooming online, and the impact on partners and children when partner and/or parent/carer is apprehended for viewing abusive imagery online.

The conference will be taking place on **Wednesday 6th November – 9:30am- 4pm – Sessions House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ.**

The event is available for all practitioners working across Kent within the children and adults workforce.

For more information regarding the event and to book a place please visit https://cpdmultiagency.theeducationpeople.org/courses/bookings/c_detail.asp?cid=24442&iscancelled=0&curpage=&keyword=grooming&ds=1&unconfirmed=&cs=&subid=&keystages=&locationid=&sdate=3/October/2019&searchcode=&is_archived=&asearch=&tutid=&estid=&sday=&smont_h=&syar=&targetid=&cal=&calday=&calmonth=&calyear=&caldate=&submonth=&subyear=&list=&palist=&frompage=&a=&b=&c=&d=&s_leadid=

NSPCC Learning from Reviews – Online Abuse

In June 2019, the NSPCC published a briefing looking at 'Online Abuse: Learning from Case Reviews'. The briefing summarises the risk factors and learning for improved practice around online abuse.

Social networking sites allow abusers to contact and groom children without the knowledge of their parents or professionals. Young people can display risky behaviour online, for example by sharing sexual images of themselves or others (sexting). They may also be exposed to harmful content. Perpetrators of child sexual abuse and exploitation can form online communities and share child sexual abuse images online.

The learning from these reviews highlights that professionals need the skills to raise awareness about online safety and encourage children and young people to talk about what they do online and who they communicate with.

The briefing is available via <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research->

Useful Links and Resources

Online Safety Posters

The UK Safer Internet Centre have produced free classroom posters to promote online safety. There are posters aimed at children aged 3-6, 6-10, and 11yrs +, and are downloadable via:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/a3-posters-to-download>

NSPCC

The NSPCC have some excellent information and advice for parents and professionals working with children. www.nspcc.org.uk

Childline

Provides advice for young people on a wide variety of issues, including online safety and cyber-bullying. www.childline.org.uk

UK Safer Internet Centre

Collaborative organisation providing advice and guidance on online safety. They also provide free professional helpline to support and advice on managing your professional reputation online. www.saferinternet.org.uk

Internet Matters

Non-profit organisation working with online safety experts to provide advice and information for parents for keeping with children safe online.

www.internetmatters.org

Get Safe Online

Covers practical, technical information on protecting against fraud, viruses etc.

www.getsafeonline.org

Immersive and Addiction Technology Report

The House of Commons Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee have published a report looking at the potential psychosocial and financial harms associated with the use of immersive technologies (technologies such as virtual and augmented reality, which offer varying levels of immersion in digital worlds) on children, young people and adults. The report covers gaming disorder, health use of social media and apps; cyber bullying and grooming; age ratings in games; and removal of content.

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcmds/1846/1846.pdf>

The Lucy Faithful Foundation

The Lucy Faithful Foundation is the only UK-wide charity dedicated solely to preventing child sexual abuse.

Lucy Faithful provide a range of specialist courses, training and other services on all aspects of child protection and safeguarding, risk management, sexual offending and child sexual abuse and exploitation.

The foundation also run a confidential and anonymous **Stop It Now!** Helpline (**0808 1000 900 / stopitnow.org.uk**), which provides support to anyone concerned with any aspect of child sexual abuse prevention, online or offline. They also help adults concerned about another adult's sexual behaviour, concerned about a child or young person's sexual behaviour, or concerned about their own thoughts or behaviour towards children. They also support professionals working with those groups.

For more information please visit <https://www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk/>

Loot Boxes

The UK Safer Internet Centre has written a blog about loot boxes, a random selection of virtual items which users can purchase in games with real money to customise or alter their experience of the game. The blog aimed at parents and carers, describes what loot boxes are; the kinds of games which feature loot boxes; and how to ensure children and young people are using loot boxes safely and responsibly.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/11-things-you-should-know-about-loot-boxes>

KSCMP Training Courses

Online Safety – Risks to Children

This course will enable practitioners to:

- Learn the background and legal basis for safeguarding;
- Know the potential risks associated with the Internet and what adults and children need to know in order to manage these risks;
- Know the 3 C's of online safety: Content, Conduct and Contact;
- Learn how to manage risks from the perspective of an adult;
- Learn how to manage risks from the perspective of a child or young person.

Online Safety – Parents and Carers

The course will enable parents and carers to:

- Know the risks to children that are associated with mobile and online technology;
- Know how to tackle these risks.

Both courses are free to complete and can be accessed via

https://kscb.melearning.university/course_centre/course_details/5

Future Newsletters

If you have any events regarding Online Safety taking place or any articles / information you wish to share please email catherine.hampson@kent.gov.uk