

# National Action Plan on Internet Safety for Children and Young People



## Ministerial Foreword



The internet and mobile technologies have positively transformed our lives, and those of children and young people. The internet provides children and young people with vast opportunities for learning, communication and support. It's becoming increasingly intertwined in their everyday lives with less distinction being made between the online and offline worlds.

However, increasing reliance on online technologies makes us potentially vulnerable to those who seek to exploit these technological advancements for malicious purposes.

We must all see the protection of children as our collective responsibility and we must all work together to ensure children and young people are protected online.

This internet safety action plan for children and young people is an important step to ensure that we have appropriate frameworks of training, support and information in place for professionals and families, including children and young people. This includes: raising awareness of children and young people's digital rights and responsibilities; improved guidance for professionals; an increased focus on ensuring parents and carers are better equipped to support their child's online activity; ensuring professionals are all better equipped to support children and young people who have suffered abuse online; and deterring people from committing abuse online.

Importantly, the industry – and social media providers in particular - must also see the protection of children as a core responsibility. Working more closely with social media providers to ensure children and young people are not exposed to harmful or unsuitable content or contact is something we will pursue.

I would like to thank all those involved in the development of this action plan, including the 5Rights Youth Commissioners for their valuable input. Their ongoing support and commitment will be critical in maintaining momentum and ensuring that all children and young people in Scotland are protected from harm online.

**Minister for Childcare and Early Years, Mark McDonald, MSP**

## Introduction

The internet is central to the lives of the majority of children and young people. We want children and young people to be protected, safe and supported in the online world and for them to be able to enjoy the internet, show resilience and take advantage of the opportunities it has to offer. Therefore, as part of [The Government's Programme for Scotland](#), we committed to publishing a refreshed action plan on internet safety for children and young people to ensure appropriate training, support and information is in place.

This plan builds on actions set out in the Scottish Government's 2010 Action Plan on Child Internet Safety and the 2011/12 Scottish Action Plan on Child Internet Safety and Responsible Use. The commitments included in these plans were structured under three broad aims:

1. Giving everybody the skills, knowledge and understanding to help children and young people stay safe online: we will help parents, carers and people who work with children and families to understand how to help children stay safe online and how to deal with problems if they occur;
2. Inspiring safe and responsible use and behaviour: we will make it clear that individuals, including children and young people themselves, need to take responsibility for their own online behaviour; and
3. Creating a safer online environment: we will work together to make sure that children are less likely to come across or get access to things online that are not suitable for them.

This action plan aims to build on the progress already made under each of the above aims and has been developed in partnership with organisations with an interest in internet safety for children and young people.

## Context

### UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

This action plan will also assist the Scottish Government in taking forward the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's Concluding Observations<sup>1</sup> for the UK State Party as these relate to Scotland. The action plan will contribute towards:

- developing and implementing comprehensive multi-sectoral strategies on child exploitation and abuse, including online, to ensure effective prevention, early detection and intervention, at national as well as at devolved levels;
- further developing comprehensive services to support children who are victims or at risk of sexual exploitation and abuse;
- training children, teachers and families on the safe use of information and communication technologies, raising awareness among children on the severe effects that online bullying can have on their peers, and increasing the involvement of social media outlets in the efforts to combat online bullying.

### Child Protection Improvement Programme

Internet safety for children and young people, along with eight other key areas of work, has formed part of the Child Protection Improvement Programme.

On 25th February 2016, the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning announced a formal review of the child protection system in Scotland alongside a programme of improvement, with a view to identifying both strengths and weaknesses in existing systems. The programme's core objective was to deliver recommendations for sustainable improvement, building upon the observable improvements in practice that have already taken place in recent years and seeking to further embed Scotland's unique approach to child wellbeing: Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC). This work has been delivered in partnership with stakeholders and an external advisory group was set up to support the improvement programme. In addition we have sought to ensure that the voice of the child is heard in the work that is taking place across the programme.

[The report from Catherine Dyer, Chair of the Child Protection Systems Review](#), was published on 2 March 2017 alongside the [Child Protection Improvement Programme report](#) which included the following actions on internet safety:

- We will publish an action plan on child internet safety by March 2017
- We will work with the UK Safer Internet Centre to deliver online safety briefing sessions across Scotland
- We will continue to participate in the Executive Board of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) and explore with social media providers and industry how we can improve child internet safety in Scotland

### Legislative landscape

Internet safety is largely a reserved matter, meaning that any decisions about the regulation of the internet would be a matter for the UK Government. However, Scottish Ministers do have significant scope to develop and implement policy relating to child internet safety as a direct result of their devolved responsibilities for

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<sup>1</sup> Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding Observations on the fifth periodic report of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, CRC/C/GBR/CO/5

education, policing and child protection. There are a number of pieces of Scottish legislation concerning offences that can be committed using the internet and these are listed in [Annex A](#).

### **Scottish Government policy landscape**

There are also a number of existing strategies with the Scottish Government that have an internet safety element. These are outlined below.

- **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

The sexual exploitation of children and young people is an often hidden form of child sexual abuse, with distinctive elements of exploitation and exchange. CSE can begin with grooming online -or even stay wholly online - but can also lead to a meeting in person with a perpetrator, putting the child or young person at further risk. CSE is a complex issue and children and young people may initially believe perpetrators to be peers or friends. Examples of online exploitation can include the sending and sharing of indecent images, including self-produced images, and once the child or young person begins to participate in such activities they leave themselves open to being blackmailed into further participation. This coerciveness might not always be obvious to the child and young person as the grooming is so powerful that they can come to believe it is acceptable behaviour, or they make a decision to participate because they think it (whatever the exchange is) is worth it to them. In March 2016, the Scottish Government published an updated [National Action Plan to Prevent and Tackle Child Sexual Exploitation](#) and a National CSE Group are working with the Scottish Government to deliver its 44 actions.

- **Digital Participation Strategy**

[Digital Participation: A National Framework for Local Action](#) was launched on 24 April 2014. This strategy sets out how the Scottish Government is working in partnership with private, public and third sector organisations to ensure that all sections of Scottish society are able to make confident use of digital technologies and the internet. The strategy makes it clear that digital technology cannot be allowed to reinforce social and economic inequalities. The strategy is underpinned by a national movement based on collaborative working with those organisations and agencies closest to the people who need help to get online. This approach will stimulate demand for internet access and increase digital literacy amongst vulnerable groups and marginalised communities.

- **Scotland's Digital Strategy**

[Scotland's Digital Strategy](#), published in March 2017, features actions on improving digital connectivity, supporting our digital industries, building digital public services, expanding our pool of digital skills, ensuring we are a cyber-resilient and secure nation, and ensuring everybody can share in the social, economic and democratic opportunities of digital. It also recognises the challenges that digital poses for work, society, and our economy; and that collective action will be needed to ensure nobody is left behind

- **Cyber Resilience**

The growth of digital technology has brought speed, efficiency and access to the way we do business, socialise and provide key services. Unfortunately internet users are also experiencing cybercrime at an unprecedented rate. The Scottish Government

published [Safe, Secure and Prosperous: A Cyber Resilience Strategy for Scotland](#) in November 2015. This strategy sets out the actions we need to take to make Scotland a cyber resilient place to live, work and do business. It focusses on themes of leadership and partnership; awareness raising and communications; education, skills and professional development; and research and innovation.

- **Equally Safe**

[Equally Safe](#) is Scotland's strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls. Education on online safety, content ownership and guidance on how to identify unhealthy online relationships is relevant to achieving this aim.

- **Prevent**

The objective of the [Prevent](#) strand of the UKG's Counter Terrorism strategy is to safeguard people from becoming terrorists. We continue to work with partner agencies and communities to implement a balanced and proportionate approach to safeguard vulnerable individuals from radicalising influences. Our approach is part of Scotland's wider work to deliver a community-led approach to building stronger, more resilient communities and is reflective of the specific challenges faced by Scottish communities.

At the forefront of our concerns is the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable children and young people. Working alongside key partner agencies, including Education Scotland and local authorities, the Scottish Government has agreed the strategic approach to deliver Prevent which has the best interest of our young people as its primary focus. The ways in which people are becoming radicalised are constantly evolving and we are acutely aware of the role the internet can play. Terrorist groups are adept at using social media and the internet to engage with young people and therefore we continue to work alongside communities and partners to raise awareness of these risks and of the need to stay safe online.

- **Human Trafficking**

The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act received Royal Assent on 4 November 2015. It introduces for the first time a single offence covering the trafficking of both adults and children for all forms of exploitation with a possible maximum sentence of life imprisonment

We have worked with a range of partners, through the Child Trafficking Strategy Group and through public consultation, to develop the children's aspects of Scotland's first Human Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy, to be published in 2017. The Strategy will set out how we can get better at identifying and supporting victims; at identifying perpetrators and disrupting their activity; and in raising awareness across the board.

- **Mental Health Strategy**

The new [Mental Health Strategy](#) was published in March 2017 and continues the focus on early intervention and on improving access to mental health services, including CAMHS. It also protects the rights of people with mental health problems, including children and young people.

## **Education**

In November 2013 the Scottish Government published [Guidance on Developing Policies to Promote the Safe and Responsible Use of Mobile Technology in Schools](#) which promotes the safe and responsible use of mobile technology in schools.

In 2014 the Scottish Government published guidance on [the Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood \(RSHP\) education in schools](#). This is guidance for teachers on the conduct of teaching RSHP education. It is intended to enable children and young people to build positive relationships as they grow older. It should present facts in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner with a framework of sound values and an awareness of laws on sexual behaviour.

In September 2016 the Scottish Government published [Enhancing Learning and Teaching Through The Use of Digital Technology: A Digital Learning and Teaching Strategy for Scotland](#). The strategy aims to create the conditions for improved use of technology in schools and is structured around 4 key objectives relating to teacher skills, leadership, curriculum and access to technology.

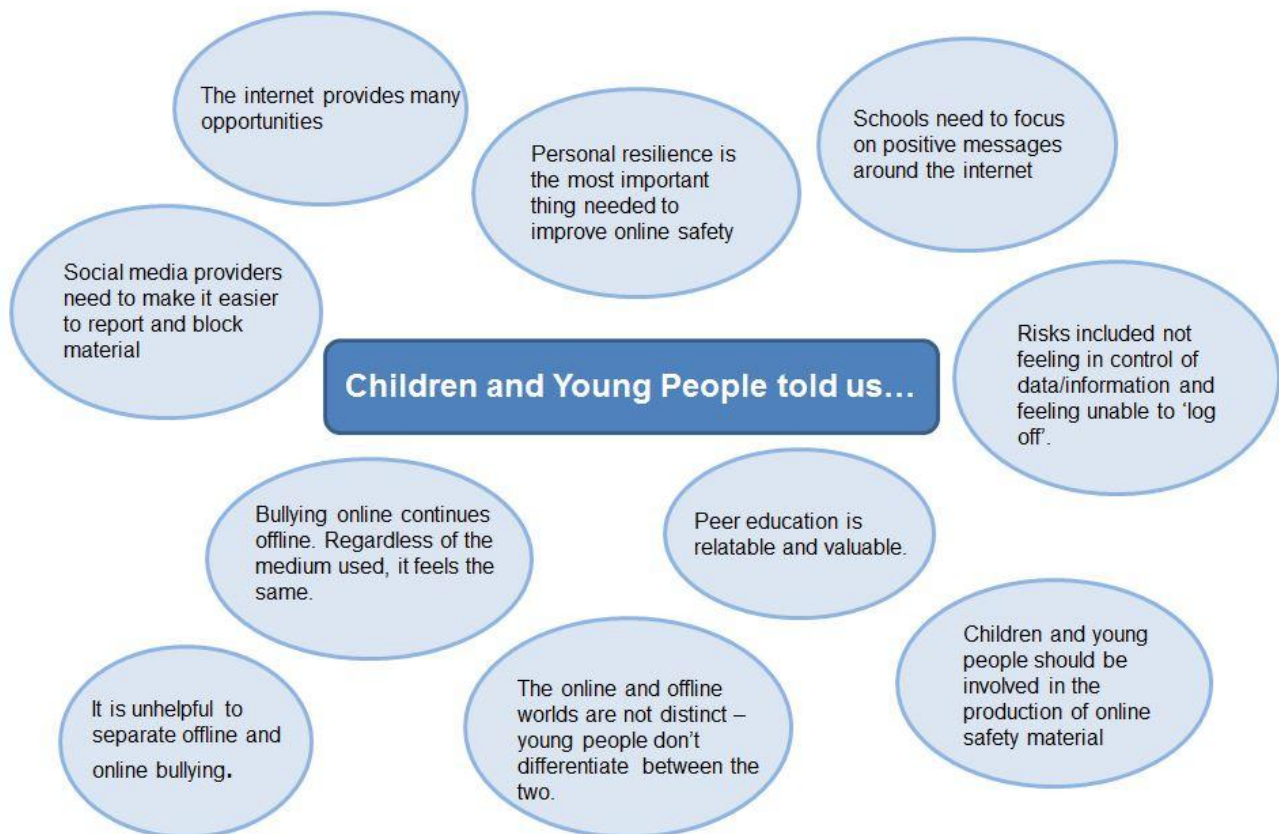
As a result of a commitment in the strategy, in March 2017, new [Experiences and Outcomes](#) were published for the Technologies area of Curriculum for Excellence. The new Experiences and Outcomes, which set out expectations for learning and progression in each area of the curriculum, now have a stronger focus on Digital Literacy, which incorporates internet safety and cyber resilience.



## Consultation with Children and Young People

We have sought the views of children and young people when developing this action plan, working with both YouthLink Scotland and Young Scot. We provided briefing, including a number of questions for children and young people, about internet safety for YouthLink Scotland's youth workers so that they could hold sessions and provide feedback. We also worked with Young Scot to hold a workshop in February 2017 with the 5Rights Youth Commissioners on Digital Rights inviting their views on internet safety for children and young people, including the risks and benefits of being online as well as on what additional support would be helpful.

The following diagram provides a summary of what they told us. More details can be found at [Annex B](#).





## Actions

We have worked closely across the Scottish Government with Child Protection, Digital Participation, Cyber Resilience, Support and Wellbeing within the Learning Directorate and Education Scotland. We have also ensured third sector organisations including YouthLink Scotland, Young Scot, NSPCC, Barnardos, *respectme* and Police Scotland have been involved in the development of this action plan.

In a series of workshops we developed and agreed long term, intermediate and contributory outcomes to help inform the actions that are set out in the plan. These outcomes are set out at [Annex C](#) This action plan is set out under the five intermediate outcomes, which are:

- Every child and young person has an age appropriate and evolving understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world
- Every parent/carer is equipped to guide and support their children's online activity
- Wider society plays a role in enhancing internet safety for children and young people
- Children and young people who have suffered, or are at risk of, abuse are identified and supported
- Potential perpetrators are deterred from committing abuse online

The following sections of this action plan set out what the Scottish Government and its partners are currently doing in regards to child internet safety, under each of the above outcomes, and what actions we intend to take over the next four years. We will publish a progress report in 2019 which will consider the progress made and may set out further actions that will reflect the rapid evolution of online technologies and our need to ensure we respond appropriately. Further to the work referred to in this action plan [Annex D](#) provides a list of additional resources on internet safety for children and young people.

## Summary of Actions

1. The Scottish Government will work to ensure children and young people are supported to build their own resilience online.
2. Through their Digital Learning and Teaching Programme, Education Scotland will support local authorities in implementing the new Technologies Curriculum guidance, which has a specific focus on digital literacy.
3. Education Scotland will ensure inspectors are aware of the expectation to deliver education that encourages innovation, confidence and responsibility in the use of technologies and staying safe online.
4. The Scottish Government and Education Scotland will work with the South West Grid for Learning to promote and update the 360 degree safe tool.
5. Education Scotland will work with Digital Schools Awards Scotland to develop a link to relevant resources on internet safety for children and young people.
6. The Scottish Government will consider what resources are available within youth work organisations on internet safety and whether more can be done to build on and amplify good practice, for consistency, with resources available across Scotland.
7. The Scottish Government will consider the findings of the Youth Commission in future policy development. Working with partners, the Scottish Government will promote the principles of the movement to inform citizens of the 5rights.
8. The Scottish Government will continue to engage with disabled people's organisations across Scotland to better understand the needs of disabled children and young people in the online world in order to ensure the most effective training, information and support is in place.
9. The Scottish Government will work closely with Parent Zone International who are planning to deliver an internet safety summit in Scotland in 2017.
10. The Scottish Government will engage with parent and carers organisations across Scotland to host a series of events aimed at empowering parents and carers to support their children's online activity.
11. The Scottish Government will work in partnership with third sector organisations, Police Scotland, the NHS and Education Scotland to produce guidance to support professionals working with children and young people on digital citizenship.
12. Child Protection Committees Scotland will explore whether there are opportunities to take a more co-ordinated approach to child internet safety in

order to further progress learning and raise greater awareness of information, support and training that is available.

13. The Scottish Government will continue to participate in the Executive Board of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) to ensure Scotland effectively contributes towards improving internet safety in Scotland within the UK environment.
14. The Scottish Government will work with digital media providers and industry to ensure parents, carers and families, as well as children and young people, have access to appropriate information and support.
15. The Scottish Government will engage with the UK Government as it develops the age verification provisions within the Digital Economy Bill.
16. The Scottish Government will work in partnership with the UK Safer Internet Centre to promote Safer Internet Day in Scotland.
17. The Scottish Government will work with the South West Grid for Learning to deliver further Online Safety Live events across Scotland.
18. The Scottish Government will work with the Marie Collins Foundation to pilot the CLICK: Path to Protection training module in Scotland, which is targeted at all professionals charged with safeguarding children who have been sexually abused and exploited online.
19. The Scottish Government will work with NHS Education for Scotland to ensure that online abuse is reflected within their National Trauma Training Framework for professionals.
20. The Scottish Government will engage with the University of Edinburgh, and Stop it Now! Scotland, as they undertake research on deterrents to viewing online indecent images of children.
21. Police Scotland will develop a Standard Operating Procedure for online abuse.
22. The Scottish Government will work closely with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in the delivery of a summit on Sexual Offending and Young People in June 2017.
23. Where appropriate, the Scottish Government and its partners will work to ensure that children and young people in Scotland are provided with the opportunity to input into the delivery of this action plan.

Long term outcomes

Children and young people are able to enjoy the internet, show resilience and take advantage of the opportunities it has to offer

Children and young people are protected, safe and supported in the digital world

Intermediate outcome

Every child and young person has an age appropriate and evolving understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world

Contributory outcomes

Children and young people are resilient and are equipped to help themselves and their peers

Children and young people are aware of their rights and responsibilities in the online world

Children and young people are able to identify when they, or their peers, are at risk, and know what to do if they spot something

There is access to appropriate training, resources and information on internet safety for everyone

## Every child and young person has an age appropriate and evolving understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world

### Contributory outcomes

- Children and young people are aware of their rights and responsibilities in the online world
- Children and young people are resilient and are equipped to help themselves and their peers
- Children and young people are able to identify when they, or their peers, are at risk, and know what to do if they spot something

## What we're already doing

### 5Rights

The Scottish Government is an official supporter of the 5Rights coalition. We awarded £100,000 of funding to place young people at the heart of the 5Rights coalition in Scotland and support them to develop insights and make recommendations about rights in the digital world.

The project identified a Youth Commission, consisting of 18 young people from across Scotland to develop informed insights, ideas, recommendations and solutions in relation to how Scotland can become a nation which realises and respects children and young people's digital rights.

The 5Rights coalition recognises that the internet and digital technologies are a fundamental part of children and young people's lives. It believes that children and young people must be empowered to access the digital world creatively, knowledgeably and fearlessly.

The 5Rights are:

- **The right to remove:** every child and young person should have the right to easily edit or delete all content they have created.
- **The right to know:** children and young people have the right to know who is holding or profiting from their information, what their information is being used for and whether it is being copied, sold or traded.
- **The right to safety and support:** children and young people should be confident that they will be protected from illegal practices and supported if confronted by troubling or upsetting scenarios online.
- **The right to informed and conscious use:** children and young people should be empowered to reach into creative places online, but at the same time have the capacity and support to easily disengage.
- **The right to digital literacy:** to access the knowledge that the internet can deliver, children and young people need to be taught the skills to use, create and critique digital technologies, and given the tools to negotiate changing social norms.

## **Youth Work**

Youth work professionals and volunteers are supporting young people to engage with their wellbeing online through informal discussion and a range of interventions focusing on 'sexting', basic digital skills, digital footprint, healthy relationships and more. Supporting young people with internet safety contributes to the National Youth Work Outcomes.

## **Education Programmes**

Children and young people will learn about the safe and responsible use of different technologies, including the internet and social media, as part of their broad general education under Curriculum for Excellence. The new [Experiences and Outcomes](#) that relate to Digital Literacy, as well as the associated benchmarks, will clarify expectations on the learning that should be delivered in our schools.

While the Curriculum for Excellence framework is set at a national level, it is for local authorities and schools to determine how they will deliver the curriculum to best suit local need.

There are a number of supporting programmes which are outlined below.

**The Childnet Digital Leaders Programme** empowers children and young people aged 4-18 years to champion digital citizenship and digital creativity within their schools and to educate their peers, parents and teachers about staying safe online. Delivered as part of Childnet's work as a partner in the UK Safer Internet Centre, the programme offers pupils access to an innovative online community and structured training, as well as on-going support from Childnet's team, to equip them to be effective role models and peer educators.

**The Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme (MVP)** is a Scottish Government funded, peer mentoring programme which utilises a creative bystander approach to prevent all forms of bullying and gender based violence in schools. MVP provides numerous opportunities to discuss the impact of the internet on peer to peer and early intimate relationships. MVP scenarios are in place to discuss online behaviour and sexting with aims of raising awareness around the harms and legal consequences of these behaviours. Importantly, MVP provides young people with options to support and safely challenge peers involved in these incidents.

The Scottish Government has provided funding to support the continued expansion of the MVP programme until 2018 which will help MVP reach an additional 30,000 young people in an additional 93 secondary schools across Scotland to educate children and young people about internet safety using peer mentoring approaches.

**The Choices for Life Be Smart Peer Mentoring Programme**, created in partnership with Trend Micro and supported by the Scottish Government and Young Scot, was launched by Police Scotland in January 2017. This programme is based on 3 short films that focus on young people's online profile, sexting and online bullying. The films provide the basis for workshops where young people interact and start a conversation about online matters. Over 150 teachers, youth workers, social workers and young people are trained to deliver the programme so far.

**Thinkuknow** is an education programme produced by the National Crime Agency's (NCA) Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) Command which provides resources, training and support for professionals who work directly with children and young people. It consists of films, learning activities and other resources which have been developed in response to intelligence from child protection experts within the CEOP Command. The resources are designed to help children and young people keep themselves safe from sexual abuse and exploitation by developing skills in identifying and avoiding risk, learning how best to protect themselves and their friends, and knowing how to get support and report abuse if they do encounter difficulties.

In addition to the resources produced for professionals, CEOP also provide online advice and a 'report abuse' tool for parents and children and young people via the Thinkuknow website.

### **Gaming**

**Abertay University** in Dundee have been working to deliver a project with **Woman's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (WRASAC) Dundee and Angus** and **(RASACPK) Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre Perth and Kinross** who deal with rape and sexual violence against women to develop a game for schools based on healthy respect including sexual consent, hyper sexualisation of young women and masculinities of young men. Students at the university developed a prototype of a game, called '**After Party**' which won the People's Choice Award the Games4Health competition at the University of Utah in 2016.

The University of Abertay are currently working on an inter-disciplinary, cross national study in partnership with WRASAC, NHS Tayside, Dundee City Council and the Institute for Health Risk Behaviours in Portugal to develop a card game as an educational game for schools that focuses on consent, sexting and hyper sexualisation.

### **Prevent Activity**

As part of their responsibilities to comply with the **Prevent duty**<sup>2</sup>, Scottish specified authorities must ensure IT policies and IT filtering solutions are in place which limit access to terrorist and/or extremist material. Schools, colleges and universities are expected to have policies in place relating to the use of IT and to use filtering as a means of restricting access to harmful content. In addition both Further and Higher Education institutions must ensure they have clear policies and procedures for students and staff working on sensitive or extremism-related research.

Scotland continues to benefit from the work of the UKG Counter Terrorism Internet Referral Unit who have responsibility for removing terrorist and/or violent extremist related illegal material from on-line platforms across the UK, with over 250,000 pieces of material removed since February 2010, with a current removal rate of around 2,000 per week. We continue to work with communities to develop a network of credible grass-roots community-led projects which can provide safe spaces

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<sup>2</sup> Through the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, a statutory duty was placed on specified authorities "to have due regard to the need to Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism." Commencement of the Prevent Duty was 1 July 2015.



(including online) where difficult issues can be debated and challenged and theological and/or geo-political guidance can be provided.

## What we will do

### 1. The Scottish Government will work to ensure children and young people are supported to build their own resilience online.

Children and young people told us that the most important thing needed to stay safe online is the building of their own personal resilience. The Scottish Government will therefore work with organisations for children and young people to ensure that children and young people have appropriate opportunities to build their resilience online and are supported to do so.

### 2. Through their Digital Learning and Teaching Programme, Education Scotland will support local authorities in implementing the new Technologies Curriculum guidance, which has a specific focus on digital literacy.

Further to a commitment made in the Digital Learning and Teaching Strategy, Education Scotland undertook a review of the Technologies Experiences and Outcomes at the end of 2016. Following a successful consultation with practitioners, academics and other interested parties, new Experiences and Outcomes have been developed. Under the heading of Digital Literacy, these new statements include specific outcomes and benchmarks related to internet safety and cyber resilience.

We want to ensure that all school across Scotland are aware of their responsibility to provide internet safety education for all pupils. Education Scotland will produce exemplification to support practitioners using the benchmarks and Experiences and Outcomes for planning learning in cyber resilience and internet safety.

### 3. Education Scotland will ensure inspectors are aware of the expectation to deliver education that encourages innovation, confidence and responsibility in the use of technologies and staying safe online.

**How good is our school? (HGIOS) (fourth edition)** was published in August 2016 and highlights effective self-evaluation as the starting point for school improvement. It supports schools to effectively evaluate their own practice and is a key aspect of the Scottish approach to school improvement. Under 3.3 Increasing Creativity and Employability it states:

‘Children and young people are innovative, confident and responsible in the use of technologies and staying safe online. They critically examine and make informed choices about the use of digital technology to enhance and personalise learning in school and where appropriate, beyond the school day. They anticipate and respond to new opportunities and threats caused by developments now and in the future.’

**4. The Scottish Government and Education Scotland will work with the South West Grid for Learning to promote and update the 360 degree safe tool**

Developed by South West Grid for Learning and funded in part by the Scottish Government, [the 360 degree safe tool](#) enables schools and organisations to self-evaluate against a detailed set of e-safety criteria. The tool provides advice, guidance and links to content that helps schools to improve all aspects of their e-safety provision.

**5. Education Scotland will work with Digital Schools Awards Scotland to develop a link to relevant resources on internet safety for children and young people**

[The Digital Schools Award Programme](#) is a free to join programme for all primary schools in Scotland. It encourages a whole-school approach to digital and supports them in embedding effective use of digital technology in the day to day life of their schools.

Structured around themes which mirror the objectives of our Digital Learning and Teaching Strategy, the programme provides a framework that enables schools to assess their progress in embedding digital. It provides advice, guidance and links to content that support schools in improving their digital offer, helping to ensure our children and young people get the best possible experience of technology in school.

**6. The Scottish Government will consider what resources are available within youth work organisations on internet safety and whether more can be done to build on and amplify good practice, for consistency, with resources available across Scotland.**

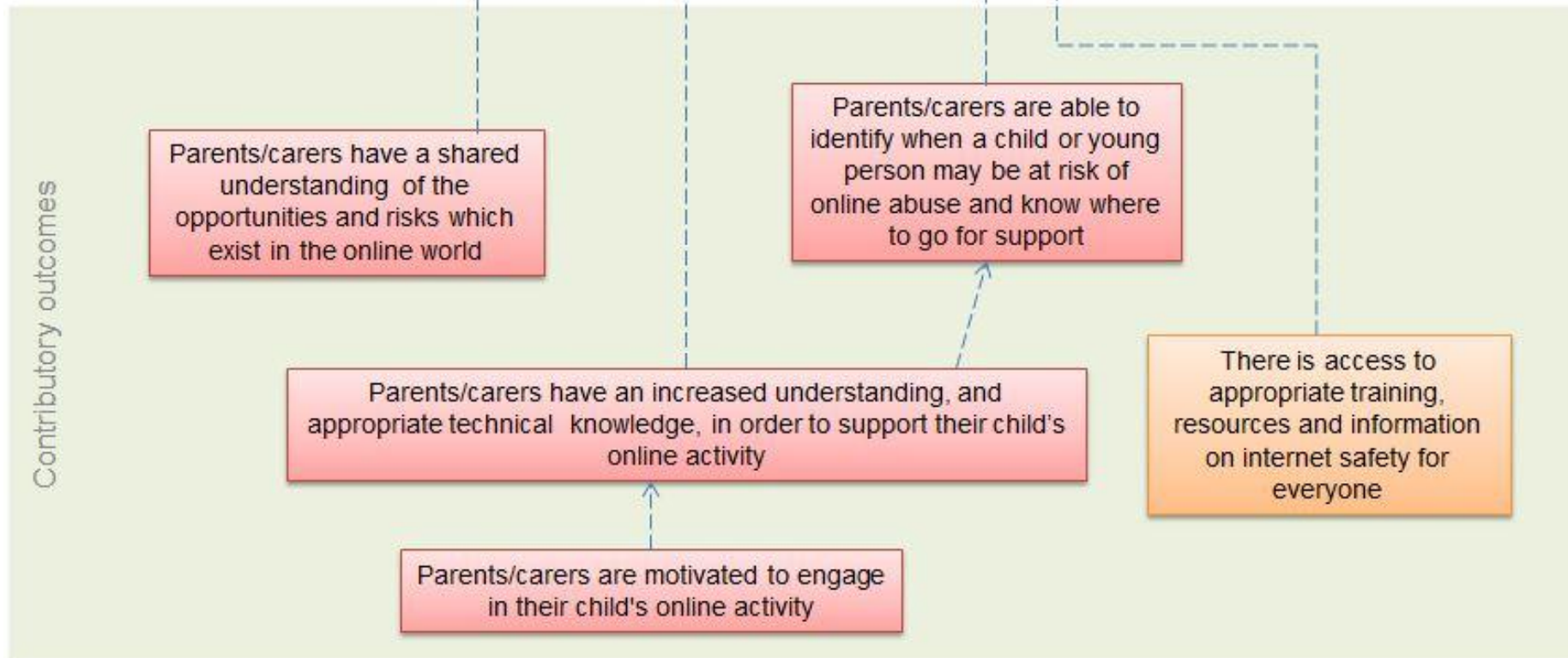
We will work with YouthLink Scotland, as the national agency for youth work, and Young Scot in the delivery of this action.

**7. The Scottish Government will consider the findings of the Youth Commission in future policy development. Working with partners, the Scottish Government will promote the principles of the movement to inform citizens of the 5rights.**

The 5Rights project identified a Youth Commission, consisting of 18 young people from across Scotland to develop informed insights, ideas, recommendations and solutions in relation to how Scotland can become a nation which realises and respects children and young people's digital rights. The Youth Commission will submit a finalised report in early 2017.

**8. The Scottish Government will continue to engage with disabled people's organisations across Scotland to better understand the needs of disabled children and young people in the online world in order to ensure the most effective training, information and support is in place.**

We will continue to engage with the Disabled Children and Young People Advisory Group and other disability organisations to better understand the needs of disabled children and young people when using the internet and how we can best provide support.



## Every parent/carer is equipped to guide and support their children's online activity

### Contributory outcomes

- Parents/carers have a shared understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world
- Parents/carers are able to identify when a child or young person may be at risk of online abuse and know where to go for support
- Parents/carers have an increased understanding, and appropriate technical knowledge, in order to support their child's online activity
- Parents/carers are motivated to engage in their child's online activity

### What we're already doing

**Parentzone Scotland**, created and maintained by Education Scotland, is a unique website for parents and carers in Scotland, from early years to beyond school. The website provides up-to-date information about learning in Scotland, practical advice and ideas to support children's learning at home in literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing, and science. Information is also available on Parentzone Scotland regarding additional support needs, how parents can get involved in their child's school and education, as well as details about schools and the performance data of school leavers from S4-S6.

Information on internet safety is currently available for parents on Parentzone Scotland and new content and videos on cyber security will be added to the site shortly. This will help parents to look at the resources and start a conversation with their child on various topics about staying safe online.

**Keep your child safe online** is a partnership between O2 and NSPCC specifically designed to support parents to keep their children safe online. It provides tips and advice, workshops to help parents/carers have the right conversations with their children and a free helpline offering personal advice.

**respectme** is a national anti-bullying service, aimed at building confidence and capacity to address bullying effectively. *respectme* provides support to all adults working with children and young people to give them the practical skills and confidence to deal with all types of bullying behaviour. In addition *respectme* delivers online safety training to parents, carers and other adults who work with children and young people across Scotland. The training is designed to increase parents' and carers' awareness of bullying and the other risks, challenges and opportunities online environments can bring, and includes a practical session on how to set and manage profiles and privacy settings on social media platforms. It supports adults in the conversations they have with children and young people about their online behaviour and relationships, and ways they can intervene if problems arise

**Thinkuknow** is produced by the National Crime Agency's (NCA) CEOP Command which provides support and advice for parents and carers as part of their Thinkuknow programme. The site provides information and signposting for parents

should they be concerned about any aspect of their child's online behaviour or engagement. There is also access to resources and information regarding current trends, parental controls and reporting to sites that may be causing concern.

**The Choices for Life Be-Smart Internet Safety Parents' Nights** is a Police Scotland programme created in partnership with Trend Micro. This programme is designed to educate parents around internet safety and to highlight their responsibility to ensure their children use the internet appropriately. The programme provides the foundations for parents, guardian and those who have a duty of care for young people to 'start the conversation' and learn with our young people about how to stay safe online.

## What we will do

### 9. The Scottish Government will work closely with Parent Zone International who are planning to deliver an internet safety summit in Scotland in 2017

**Parent Zone** International provides UK-wide training and support on online safety including the first evidence based digital parenting programme designed to help parents take offline parenting skills online. They work with Vodafone to produce **Digital Parenting** which aims to empower parents and carers to help children make the right choices in the digital world. They also manage **Parent Info**, in partnership with CEOP, a free newsfeed for schools, as well as a Digital Schools programme that provides schools with support on internet safety and digital resilience

We will work with Parent Zone in both the planning and delivery of the internet safety summit which would be aimed specifically at professionals working with parents with a focus on capacity building.

### 10. The Scottish Government will engage with parent and carers organisations across Scotland to host a series of events aimed at empowering parents and carers to support their children's online activity.

There are a number of parent and carer organisations across Scotland that could assist in bringing together parents and carers. These events would help us ensure that parents and carers are better equipped to support their children in the online world, including understanding their rights, risks and where to go to for support.

These events will also provide an opportunity for the Scottish Government and partners to promote consistent and positive messages about internet safety.



Long term outcomes

Children and young people are able to enjoy the internet, show resilience and take advantage of the opportunities it has to offer

Children and young people are protected, safe and supported in the digital world

Intermediate outcome

Wider society plays a role in enhancing internet safety for children and young people

Contributory outcomes

There is access to appropriate training, resources and information on internet safety for everyone

There is access to appropriate training, resources and information on internet safety for everyone

The general public are aware of the impact harmful online behaviour can have

Parents/carers have an increased understanding, and appropriate technical knowledge, in order to support their child's online activity

Professionals and communities have a shared understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world, as well as the appropriate skills and knowledge to provide support

Businesses and industry are committed to enhancing internet safety

Appropriate support services are able to effectively respond to the needs of children and young people who have suffered online abuse

There is a shared understanding in regards to internet safety across Scotland



## Wider society plays a role in enhancing internet safety for children and young people

### Contributory outcomes

- There is access to appropriate training, resources and information on internet safety for everyone
- The general public are aware of the impact harmful online behaviour can have
- Businesses and industry are committed to enhancing internet safety
- Professionals and communities have a shared understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world, as well as the appropriate skills and knowledge to provide support

## What we're already doing

**The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)** is the UK Hotline for reporting criminal online content, including child sexual abuse images and videos which the Internet Watch Foundation acts to remove. The IWF also works closely with the online industry to help them disrupt the availability of child sexual abuse content on their networks.

**UK Safer Internet Centre Professionals' Helpline**, set up in 2011, aims to help the children's workforce with online safety issues.

**Police Scotland's 'Web Constable' internal network** is made up of officers that are involved in online safety and prevention work at a local policing level, such as Campus Officers or Local Community Policing Officers. This network keeps updated on online related matters and engages with communities to deliver 'joined up' local messaging. They are supported by industry experts such as Get Safe Online, CEOP and Cyber Street Wise who have attended the twice yearly workshops to provide support for the work that is on-going in schools and communities.

**Digital Youth Network** is a network co-hosted by YouthLink Scotland and Young Scot for practitioners using digital technology or online spaces in their work with young people. This is an opportunity to share online safety messaging with the youth sector.

The Scottish Government's **Cyber Resilience Strategy** team is working with representatives from across the public, private and third sectors to support coordinated awareness raising activity following a monthly calendar of cyber related themes with a communications toolkit using trusted messaging and sources of advice on cyber resilience such as the Cyber Aware campaign.

The Scottish Government's **National Approach to Anti-bullying for Scotland's Children and Young People** sets out a common vision and aims to make sure that work across all agencies and communities is jointly focussed on addressing bullying, including online bullying. The guidance is currently being refreshed to ensure it remains current and reflects recent legislative and policy developments. The refreshed anti bullying guidance will be published later in 2017.

## What we will do

**11. The Scottish Government will work in partnership with third sector organisations, Police Scotland, the NHS and Education Scotland to produce guidance to support professionals working with children and young people on digital citizenship.**

In discussions with stakeholders it has been recognised that there is a need for guidance for professionals and parents to provide support on internet safety. We will therefore work with partners to develop guidance on digital citizenship which will include information on respectful behaviours (including consent), rights and responsibilities, resilience and where to go to for support. It will also consider issues raised by self-produced sexual images ('sexting').

In delivering on this action we will engage with Greater Glasgow and Clyde who are developing an updated national resource on Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP) education which incorporates guidance on sexting, amongst other topics. This resource will seek to close any gaps in RSHP teaching resources, such as online safety.

We are also engaging with the University of Edinburgh as they develop their work in the area of self-produced sexual images by adolescents. They are currently collaborating with Police Scotland, the National Crime Agency CEOP Command, Norfolk Constabulary and the Marie Collins Foundation to seek the views of young people who have taken and shared nude or nearly nude images of themselves (where coercion may, or may not, have played a part) to better understand from their perspective how we can develop good practice guidelines for professionals. The University of Edinburgh also recently held meetings with three stakeholder groups in Edinburgh, Norfolk and London to discuss how to reach consensus to further develop and disseminate evidence-based guidelines that can be used to protect young people while respecting their rights. The report will be given back to those who have participated in the study for comment and input before its final production and dissemination in early 2017.

**12. Child Protection Committees Scotland will explore whether there are opportunities to take a more co-ordinated approach to child internet safety in order to further progress learning and raise greater awareness of information, support and training that is available.**

Many Child Protection Committees across Scotland are already undertaking work to increase understanding of online risks to children and young people and to promote internet safety within their multi-agency partnerships and within local communities. This action will help to ensure a more consistent approach.

**13. The Scottish Government will continue to participate in the Executive Board of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) to ensure Scotland effectively contributes towards improving internet safety in Scotland within the UK environment.**

**The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS)** consists of representation from a number of organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors including social media and internet service providers. The Scottish Government is represented on the Executive Board of UKCCIS which is chaired by UK Ministers. We are engaging with the UK Government to explore how we can better utilise links within UKCCIS to develop Scotland's relationship with industry and so identify areas where improvements can be made.

**14. The Scottish Government will work with digital media providers and industry to ensure parents, carers and families, as well as children and young people, have access to appropriate information and support.**

We have successfully made links with Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat and Google to discuss internet safety for the children and young people who use their platforms and how we can better promote safety when using their platforms in Scotland.

We will also engage in UK wide discussions with social media companies, technology firms, young people, charities and mental health experts which will focus on industry responsibilities to society, how technology can improve safety, helping parents face up to and discuss dangers, and how to help young people help themselves.

In addition, we will engage with the UK Government's Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) as they develop a new Internet Safety Strategy to tackle online dangers facing children and young people.

**15. The Scottish Government will engage with the UK Government as it develops the age verification provisions within the Digital Economy Bill.**

The Digital Economy Bill was introduced to the UK Parliament in 2016. The Scottish Government continues to engage with the UK Government as it develops the Bill which includes provisions requiring commercial providers of online pornography to have appropriate age verification checks in place to ensure children and young people are protected from inappropriate material. This requirement applies to sites based in the UK as well as those based overseas and is an important step in ensuring industry sees the protection of children as one of their core responsibilities.

**16. The Scottish Government will work in partnership with the UK Safer Internet Centre to promote Safer Internet Day in Scotland.**

**Safer Internet Day** is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people and inspire a national conversation. The UK campaign is coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre, a partnership of three leading charities: Childnet, the Internet Watch Foundation and the South West Grid for Learning. The Scottish Government remains a proud supporter of Safer Internet Day.

Safer Internet Day 2018 will be aligned with the **Year of Young People**, a year aimed to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and on the international stage.

**17. The Scottish Government will work with the South West Grid for Learning to deliver further Online Safety Live events across Scotland.**

**Online Safety Live** is a programme of free events designed exclusively for professionals working with children and young people. Delivered across the whole of the UK by the South West Grid for Learning, these events are delivered locally with the latest in online safety including the latest issues, the biggest trends and the best resources.

The Scottish Government has worked closely with the South West Grid for Learning over recent years to deliver these sessions across the country. To date there have been sessions in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Fife, Perth, Dingwall, Inverness, Ayr, Stirling, South Lanarkshire, Oxtun, Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray, Roxburghshire and East Kilbride. In March 2017 we delivered sessions in Prestwick, Kirkcaldy, Stirling, Falkirk, Angus, Dundee, Dumfries, Irvine and East Ayrshire.

We are looking to deliver further session in November 2017 and in 2018/19.

Long term outcomes

Children and young people are able to enjoy the internet, show resilience and take advantage of the opportunities it has to offer

Children and young people are protected, safe and supported in the digital world

Intermediate outcome

Children and young people who have suffered, or are at risk of, abuse are identified and supported

Contributory outcomes

Appropriate support services are able to effectively respond to the needs of children and young people who have suffered online abuse

Third sector and statutory agencies work collaboratively to identify and respond to risk

Procedures for protecting children are correctly followed

CPCs have an evolving understanding of risks

Professionals are able to effectively recognise and risk assess concerns around online behaviour

Practitioners are supported to respond effectively to instances of online abuse



## Children and young people who have suffered, or are at risk of, abuse are identified and supported

### Contributory outcomes

- Appropriate support services are able to effectively respond to the needs of children and young people who have suffered online abuse
- Third sector and statutory agencies work collaboratively to identify and respond to risk
- Practitioners are supported to respond effectively to instances of online abuse
- Child Protection Committees have an evolving understanding of risks
- Professionals are able to effectively recognise and risk assess concerns around online behaviour
- Procedures for protecting children are correctly followed

## What we're already doing

Through the **Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention Fund**, the Scottish Government is currently providing funding (until 2018) to the following organisations:

- **The Moira Anderson Foundation** to provide therapeutic and on-going support to survivors of childhood sexual abuse and initial and on-going support to the children and young people referred to them. This is with the intention of providing effective support to survivors, helping parenting and family wellbeing and tackling problems as soon as risks emerge.
- Funding to **NSPCC** will support implementation in Scotland of **Childline's** improvement project "Doing More for Children". The project has responded to the rising and changing demand for Childline counselling and support services, to increase the number of counselling sessions and response rates, as well as the ways in which children and young people can seek support and resources from the service.
- **Barnardo's Scotland** to ensure that children and young people at risk of or affected by sexual exploitation are identified early and receive appropriate support. **Barnardo's snapshot survey** of a sample of its CSE services in 2016 found that 42% of the children supported by these services had been groomed online.

**NHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)** clinicians are working in teams who offer a service to children and young people who present with moderate to severe mental health difficulties where a significant trauma history can be part of the picture. CAMHS clinicians would offer evidence based interventions such as trauma focussed CBT as part of the overall assessment and intervention approach. They will also provide systemic/ trauma informed interventions and training for settings where this would be appropriate such as working with residential units.

**Stop to Listen**, managed by Children 1st, is a pilot programme in four local authority areas: Glasgow, Renfrewshire, Perth and Kinross and North Ayrshire to make small changes to practice, with a view to ensuring that services are child centred when

responding to all forms of child sexual abuse including abuse which takes place through the internet. As part of the planning for the pilots and the evaluation process they will talk to children and young people to capture the responses when children have spoken out about their abuse as well as their experience of child protection processes to hear about when this worked for them and when they felt that things could have been done better.

## **What we will do**

**18. The Scottish Government will work with the Marie Collins Foundation to pilot the CLICK: Path to Protection training module in Scotland, which is targeted at all professionals charged with safeguarding children who have been sexually abused and exploited online.**

The Marie Collins Foundation is a UK charity enabling children who suffer sexual abuse and exploitation via internet and mobile technologies to recover and live safe, fulfilling lives. The Marie Collins Foundation works with children, families, practitioners, Government departments and industry to ensure the response to those harmed reflects current best practice.

BT and the Marie Collins Foundation announced a partnership to pilot a new programme that will equip all front-line workers to help children harmed in this way.

The pilot will be delivered in partnership with Education Scotland, the NHS, Police Scotland and third sector organisations.

**19. The Scottish Government will work with NHS Education for Scotland to ensure that online abuse is reflected within their National Trauma Training Framework for professionals.**

**NHS Education for Scotland** has been commissioned by the Scottish Government Survivor Scotland to deliver a National Trauma Training Framework. The goal of this work is to support the strategic planning and delivery of training for the Scottish Workforce who are working with survivors of trauma and complex trauma across different levels



Long term outcomes

Children and young people are able to enjoy the internet, show resilience and take advantage of the opportunities it has to offer

Children and young people are protected, safe and supported in the digital world

Intermediate outcome

Potential perpetrators are deterred from committing abuse online

Contributory outcomes

The general public are aware of the impact harmful online behaviour can have

Practitioners are supported to respond effectively to instances of online abuse

Those who are at risk of perpetrating online child abuse are supported to change their behaviour

Potential perpetrators are able to self-identify problematic behaviour

There is an improved ability to detect and prevent further abuse

Perpetrators, and potential perpetrators, are identified and disrupted early

Perpetrators are brought to justice

## Potential perpetrators are deterred from committing abuse online

### Contributory outcomes

- Potential perpetrators are able to self-identify problematic behaviour
- Perpetrators, and potential perpetrators, are identified and disrupted early
- Those who are at risk of perpetrating online child abuse are supported to change their behaviour
- There is an improved ability to detect and prevent further abuse
- Perpetrators are brought to justice

## What we're already doing

As part of Police Scotland's **Operation Lattise**, the first national operation of focused activity to tackle the many forms of online child sexual abuse, over 500 children were identified as victims or potential victims of online child sexual abuse or other related abuse. Online child sexual abuse is a national threat – the reality is that it is happening now to children of all ages.

**Stop it Now! Scotland** is a national programme for the prevention of child sexual abuse, whose core services are funded through the Scottish Government's Section 10 Grant Funding Scheme (Direct Funding for the Voluntary Sector – Adult Community Care Scheme). They provide direct intervention to individuals in Scotland who are worried about their sexual thinking or behaviour, have recently been arrested or are a concerned family member.

Stop it Now! Scotland was funded by Survivor Scotland's Innovation and Development Fund to develop a 'toolkit' of practical materials which people can use whenever they identify concerns or worries that makes them think that a risk of child sexual abuse exists. The Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention Fund will provide further funding to Stop it Now! from April 2017 to further pilot and roll out their prevention toolkit. It will be available online to anyone registering to access it – including people providing general services locally as well as adult members of the public.

**Stop it Now! Helpline** aims to provide support for:

- adult abusers and those at risk of abusing to encourage them to recognise their behaviour as abusive or potentially abusive and to seek help to change;
- family and friends concerned about an adult displaying worrying sexual thoughts or behaviour towards a child to encourage them to recognise the signs of abusive behaviour in those close to them and to seek advice about what action to take;
- parents/carers concerned about a child or young person with worrying sexual behaviour to encourage them to recognise the signs of concerning or abusive behaviour and to seek advice about what positive action they can take.

The Scottish Government are also **funding Stop It Now! Scotland and Barnardo's Scotland** through the Survivor Scotland Innovation and Development Fund to build

local partnerships in order to identify and support children and young people who use the internet in a way that may be harmful to themselves or others.

The Scottish Government will be providing funding for **Sacro** for their **Challenging Harmful Online Images & Child Exploitation (CHOICE)** programme. It is a programme suitable for those downloading illegal images of children from the internet where there is a low risk of sexual harm and the offences are 'non-contact' in nature. The service is aimed at males aged 18 and over, who may be considered suitable to be diverted from prosecution, or who are subject to a structured deferred sentence, community pay-back order or other community order or licence.

The programme aims to reduce the likelihood of an escalation to more serious offending and to reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

## **What we will do**

**20. The Scottish Government will engage with the University of Edinburgh, and Stop it Now! Scotland, as they undertake research on deterrents to viewing online indecent images of children.**

The University of Edinburgh are currently undertaking a research project, funded by NSPCC, about deterrents to viewing online indecent images of children in partnership with Stop It Now! Scotland, Lucy Faithful Foundation, University of London and the CharitéUniversitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany. This research will help inform policy and practice in this area.

**21. Police Scotland will develop a Standard Operating Procedure for online abuse.**

The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) will develop and enhance the existing Indecent Images of Children SOP to include the wider aspect of online child sexual abuse and will encompass the threats and dangers access to the internet can provide. These include web cam extortion, possession and distribution of images, child sexual exploitation and online grooming.

Police Scotland will continue to treat online child abuse as a priority and ensure there is a continued and developing operational response into online offending following the implementation of Operation Latisse. The focus will be on the protection of those at risk of harm by means of prevention, early intervention through education and the robust investigation of those individuals identified as posing a risk to children online.

**22. The Scottish Government will work closely with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in the delivery of a summit on Sexual Offending and Young People in June 2017.**

Following engagement with stakeholders, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) will hold a summit on sexual offending and young people later in 2017.

The summit will assist in the prevention of future sexual offending involving children and young people as victims and offenders by:

- Raising awareness amongst professionals of the involvement of children and young people in the criminal justice system in relation to sexual offending and some of the common issues arising in these cases;
- Showcasing and signposting some of the positive prevention work and resources available;
- Identifying gaps and potential solutions to improve the awareness of children and young people around the law relating to sexual offending.

## LEGISLATION

### **The Communications Act 2003, Section 127**

It is an offence to send a message which is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character

### **The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Sections 52 and 52A**

It is an offence to have in your possession or to make, take or distribute indecent images of children

### **The Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009, Sections 6, 23, 24, 33 and 34**

It is an offence to coerce a person, or to cause a child under the age of 16, to view a sexual image or receive a sexual communication, where it is done for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification or causing the recipient fear, alarm or distress.

### **The Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Harm (Scotland) Act 2016**

When it comes into force, it will criminalise the non-consensual sharing of intimate images of another person.

The 2016 Act will also introduce Sexual Risk Orders (SROs) which will strengthen and streamline the current risk of sexual harm order provisions in the Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005. SROs may be made in relation to a person without a conviction for a sexual offence (or any offence), but who poses a risk of sexual harm. The SRO may be made by the court on application, by the police, where an individual has done an act of a sexual nature, e.g. engaged in sexually explicit conduct or communication with a child or children.

### **Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010, Section 38 and 39**

It is an offence for a person to behave in a threatening or abusive manner, where that behaviour would be likely to cause a reasonable person to feel fear or alarm

Depending on the facts and circumstances of the case, it may be possible to use the offence of stalking to prosecute a person who publishes any statement relating to a person or purporting to originate from that person or from another person that causes them to feel fear or alarm

### **Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005, Sections 1, 9, 10 11 and 12**

It is an offence (often referred to as an offence of 'grooming') for a person intentionally to meet, travel with the intention of meeting, or make arrangements with the intention of meeting a child under the age of 16 in any part of the world, if that person has met or communicated with the child on at least one earlier occasion, and intends to engage in unlawful sexual activity involving the child or in the presence of the child either at the time of the meeting or after the meeting.

It is also an offence to pay for the sexual services of a child or to be involved in facilitating a child's involvement in child pornography.

## **Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005, Sections 2 - 8**

These sections make provision for Risk of Sexual Harm Orders (RSHOs). The purpose of this order is to give courts the power to place conditions on someone who is behaving in such a way which suggests that they pose a risk of sexual harm to a particular child or children generally. RSHOs can be made in respect of any person of any age if it appears to the police that that person has, on at least two occasions, engaged in certain inappropriate sexual conduct or communication with a child or children (under 16), and as a result there is reasonable cause to believe that it is necessary for the order to be made.

## **Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012, Section 6**

It is an offence to communicate material (including images) to someone that contains or implies a threat or incitement to carry out serious violence against a person or group of people. The communication must be likely to cause a reasonable person fear or alarm and be sent with the intent to, or recklessness as to whether it will, cause fear or alarm

## **Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 – Section 1**

Section 1 sets out the offence of human trafficking. There are two parts to the offence: the relevant action and an intention to exploit or knowledge of likely exploitation<sup>3</sup>; both are needed for an offence to be committed.

The first part of the offence is carrying out a relevant action with regard to another person. It does not matter whether that other person consents to that action being taken.

A relevant action includes any of the following:

- Recruiting another person;
- Transporting or transferring another person;
- Harboursing or receiving another person;
- Exchanging control over, or transferring control over another person;
- Arranging or facilitating (without necessarily doing), any of the actions above.

The internet could play a role in these actions.

Travel from one place to another is not a required action for there to be an offence of human trafficking in Scotland, although it can form part of the offence.

Involving a person in the making or production of materials which are classified as obscene under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (i.e. 'extreme' or child pornography) is included in the definition of exploitation. The definition also includes circumstances where the person has been the victim of certain sexual offences listed in section 3(5) of the Act, such as rape, sexual assault or child-sex offences.

Where a person has committed the offence of human trafficking against a child, then section 6 of the Act requires a court to take that into account in sentencing and explain what part that consideration played in sentencing. It allows the court to

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<sup>3</sup> 'Exploitation' in this context is defined in a specific way in section 3 of the Act



increase the sentence it would have given in respect of the human trafficking, because it was committed against a child. It also requires the conviction to be recorded in a way which highlights the fact that it was committed against a child. In this Act, a child is a person under the age of 18.

## CONSULTATION WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

We have sought the views of children and young people when developing this action plan, working with both YouthLink Scotland and Young Scot. We provided briefing, including a number of questions for children and young people, about internet safety for YouthLink Scotland's youth workers so that they could hold sessions and provide feedback. We also worked with Young Scot to hold a workshop in February 2017 with the 5Rights Youth Commissioners on Digital Rights inviting their views on internet safety for children and young people, including the risks and benefits of being online as well as on what additional support would be helpful.

Children and young people told us:

- Improved communication, job applications and opportunities, engaging in society, education, and social media for self-expression were some of the many benefits mentioned about being online. Some of the risks included not feeling in control of data/information and that there was also an addictive aspect in terms of not wanting to/or feeling able to 'log off'.
- Children and young people don't see the online/offline worlds as distinct – even if someone is physically with other people they still have an active online presence via their profiles. They will also interact with others online and in person at the same time and don't differentiate between the two.
- Schools often talked about 'what not to do', when it is felt there should be more focus on 'this is what you could do' and 'this is what you should do to be safe'. Education settings should move on from the risk-averse and fear-based messages and improve their understanding of what being online means to children and young people in addition to keeping up to date with current technology and online trends, which is also lacking.
- Often messages from community police are seen as 'terrifying' rather than helpful, with the emphasis being on the criminalisation of various behaviours. It was suggested that peer education would be a much better model, because it's more relatable and therefore valuable.
- Importantly, there was a collective view that children and young people need to be involved in the production of online safety material.
- If you're bullied online it continues offline and regardless of the medium used, it feels the same. It is therefore unhelpful to try to separate into offline and online bullying. Friends or parents, depending on the severity of the situation, would be where victims of bullying would go to for support. Childline and *respectme* were also mentioned as a good place to go for support.
- Personal resilience is the most important thing needed to improve online safety; however support is needed to build this. Within the feedback children and young people also called for social media providers to make it easier to report and block material, with simple demonstrations on how to do so. It was suggested that pop ups could be used. Messaging also needs to be more constructive when things are reported, rather than "under our guidelines this is not bullying".
- When talking about the needs of parents and carers, it was suggested better resources are needed.
- There is a need for parents and schools to react calmly towards online incidents and prioritise listening to the experience of those involved.

Long term  
outcomes

Children and young people are able to enjoy the internet, show resilience and take advantage of the opportunities it has to offer

Children and young people are protected, safe and supported in the digital world

ANNEX C

Intermediate  
outcome

Every child and young person has an age appropriate and evolving understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world

Every parent/carer is equipped to guide and support their children's online activity

Wider society plays a role in enhancing internet safety for children and young people

Children and young people who have suffered, or are at risk of, abuse are identified and supported

Potential perpetrators are deterred from committing abuse online

Children and young people are resilient and are equipped to help themselves and their peers

Parents/carers have a shared understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world

There is access to appropriate training resources and information on internet safety for everyone

The general public are aware of the impact harmful online behaviour can have

Procedures for protecting children are correctly followed

Potential perpetrators are able to self-identify problematic behaviour

Contributory outcomes

Children and young people are able to identify when they, or their peers, are at risk, and know what to do if they spot something

Parents/carers are able to identify when a child or young person may be at risk of online abuse and know where to go for support

Businesses and industry are committed to enhancing internet safety

Third sector and statutory agencies work collaboratively to identify and respond to risk

Professionals are able to effectively recognise and risk assess concerns around online behaviour

Perpetrators, and potential perpetrators, are identified and disrupted early

Children and young people are aware of their rights and responsibilities in the online world

Parents/carers have an increased understanding, and appropriate technical knowledge, in order to support their child's online activity

Professionals and communities have a shared understanding of the opportunities and risks which exist in the online world, as well as the appropriate skills and knowledge to provide support

CPCs have an evolving understanding of risks

Those who are at risk of perpetrating online child abuse are supported to change their behaviour

Parents/carers are motivated to engage in their child's online activity

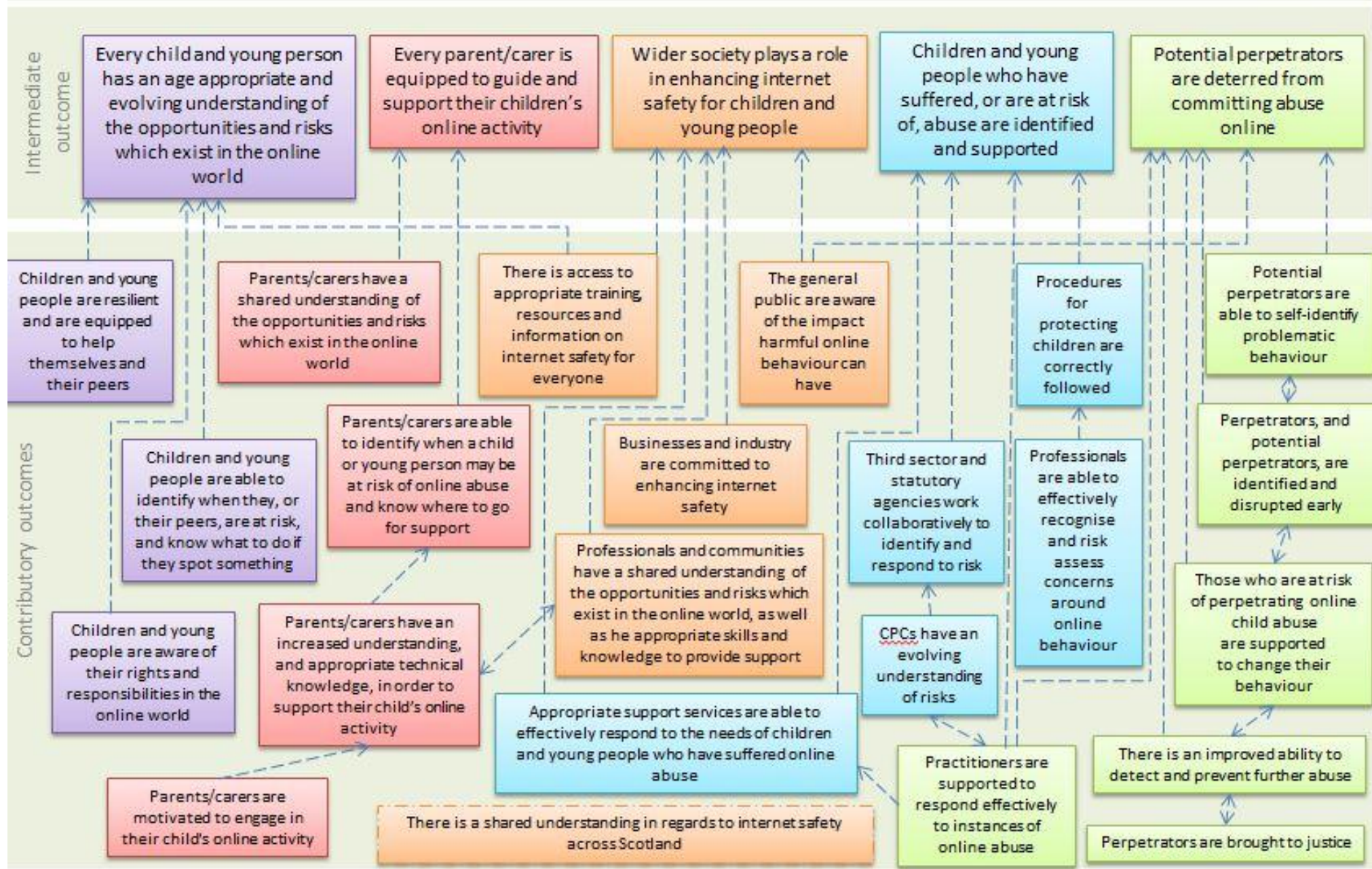
There is a shared understanding in regards to internet safety across Scotland

Appropriate support services are able to effectively respond to the needs of children and young people who have suffered online abuse

Practitioners are supported to respond effectively to instances of online abuse

There is an improved ability to detect and prevent further abuse

Perpetrators are brought to justice



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### Research

- 'Over the Internet, Under the Radar: Prevention of Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Scotland' - The Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice (CYCJ) and Barnardo's Scotland
- Risk taking Online Behaviour Empowerment Through Research and Training – ROBERT
- SPIRTO: Self-Produced Images – Risk Taking Online
- Safeguarding Teenage Intimate Relationships
- EU Kids Online website
- EU Kids Online Final Report 2014
- EU kids online and Net Children Go Mobile: Children's Online Risks and Opportunities (Dec 2014)
- Internet Matters: Revealed: The secret life of six-year-olds online (Feb 2017)
- Ofcom Communications Market Report (2016)
  - UK Wide
  - Scotland
- Ofcom Childrens and Adults Media Use and Attitudes Report (2016)
- Ofcom Children's media lives: Year 3 findings – Nov 2016
- Children's Commissioner Growing Up Digital (Jan 2017)
- 360 safe: UK Schools Online Safety Policy and Practice Assessment 2015 – Oct 2015
- Respectme Bullying in Scotland 2014 Report (PDF)
- ICO Preparing for GDPR
- ICO Schools Data Protection Guidance Report
- International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence
- ICSR Report: Who Inspires The Syrian Foreign Fighters?
- Online Radicalisation
- VOX Pol Network
- Unprotected, overprotected: meeting the needs of young people with learning disabilities who experience, or are at risk of, sexual exploitation
- Online child sexual abuse images - Doing more to tackle demand and supply

### Regulation and Guidance

- How good is our early learning and development? (Education Scotland)
- Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes
- School Inspection in Scotland – Education Scotland
- Inspection of Services for Children and Young People – Care Inspectorate
- Better relationships, better learning, better behaviour – Scottish Government
- Guidance on Developing Policies to Promote the Safe and Responsible Use of Mobile Technology in Schools
- Professional Guidance on the Use of Electronic Communication and Social Media (General Teaching Council for Scotland)
- National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014
- Digital Learning and Teaching Strategy for Scotland (Sep 2016)
- Safe, Secure & Prosperous: A Cyber Resilience Strategy for Scotland (Nov 2015)
- Appropriate Filtering and Monitoring definitions (UK Safer Internet Centre)



## Resources

- [Online Compass](#) (SWGfL)
- [Early Years Toolkit](#) (SWGfL)
- [Digiduck Big Decision](#) (Childnet)
- [Social Worker Toolkit \(and Training\)](#)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre Safety Tools overview](#)
- [Sexting Resources](#) (UKSIC)
  - [Picture This](#) (Sexting)
  - [So You Got Naked Online](#) (Sexting)
  - [With Friends Like These...](#) (Sexting)
  - [Exposed](#) (CEOP) (Sexting)
  - [Guidance for Schools & Responding to sexting incidents](#) (England and Wales)
  - [UKCCIS Sexting in Schools and Colleges](#) (England)
  - [UK Police College Briefing note](#)
- [Digital Literacy Curriculum](#) (SWGfL)
- [STAR resources](#) (Childnet)
- [ENABLE](#)
- [Online Reputation Minisite](#) (UKSIC)
- [Online Safety Tips](#) (Microsoft)
- [Parents Guide to Technology](#) (UKSIC)
- [Online safety webpage](#) (Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland)
- [European Insafe Network](#)
- [Trust Me resource](#) (Childnet)
- [Internet Matters.org](#) - Helping parents keep their children safe online
- [PINS](#) - Pupil Inclusion Network Scotland
- [The Reward Foundation](#) – our brain on love and sex
- [Parent Line Scotland](#)
- [Learning Disabilities, Autism and Internet Safety: A Guide for Parents](#)

## Social Media

- [Facebook Support](#)
- [Facebook Parents Portal](#)
- [Facebook Checklist](#) (SWGfL)
- [Twitter Help centre](#)
- [Twitter Checklist](#) (SWGfL)
- [Snapchat Support](#)
- [Snapchat Checklist](#) (SWGfL)
- [Instagram Help Centre](#)
- [Instagram Checklist](#)
- [Youtube Safety Page](#)



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