

# 7 Minute Briefing: Online child sexual abuse

Date: June 2023

## 7. Other useful organisations:

**Marie Collins Foundation works directly with children, young people and families to enable their recovery following sexual abuse involving technology**  
[www.mariecollinsfoundation.org.uk](http://www.mariecollinsfoundation.org.uk)

### ChildLine 0800 1111

- ChildLine is a free, private and confidential service which can be used for children to report any concerns they have regarding any aspect of their lives
- ChildLine offers a secure confidential service to help children find their voice.

### Lucy Faithful Foundation - LFF

- Work to prevent abuse  
[www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk](http://www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk)

### CrimeStoppers - 0800 555 111

Provide information to the Police anonymously

### Surrey Police – for advice call 101

In the case of an emergency always call 999

## 6. How can parental controls be used?

Parental controls should be regularly checked as it's never completely fool proof.

Instructions on how to set controls will be found on the manufacturers website or to find specific advice for your device, network or platform, use this link:

[Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides | Internet Matters](#)

## 5. National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) continued/

[www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying)

- How to recognise the signs and impact of cyberbullying
- Support for parents and carers when this has been recognised

[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-reporting/report-remove/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-reporting/report-remove/)

- If a child (under the age of 18) reports that sexual imagery has made its way to the internet you can report via this site. ChildLine in conjunction with the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) will then work to have this image removed wherever possible.

[NSPCC YouTube video](#) -provides a 15-minute online safety workshop aimed at Parents and Carers.

## 1. Background

The internet is a fantastic tool which, when used safely, helps us to learn, interact with others and aides us to perform a lot of our day-to-day activities. Its usage and applications will only continue to grow so it becomes more ingrained in our everyday lives and functionality.

In some cases, it can feel that children's usage and knowledge of how to navigate and negotiate the internet is overtaking ours, it doesn't always need to feel that way however. We hope this 7-minute briefing will help dispel some myths and be a practical guide to help navigate these concerns.

## 2. Context

Within this briefing is a list of key resources available to professionals, children, parents and carers to help all to understand, navigate and encourage talk about online safety.

Many websites offer tailored advice for different age groups to make sure it always remains appropriate and suitable to discuss freely.

They also include games, word searches and other interactive means by which these conversations can be sparked, and messages shared/learned.

## 3. Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP)

Part of the National Crime Agency offers guidance relating to keeping families safe  
[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

This link takes you to the CEOP Education page and contains advice for:

- Professionals working with children and young people
- Parents and carers (includes home safety activities to encourage conversation)
- Age-appropriate fun learning resource for the following ages;
  - 4 – 7 years
  - 8 – 10 years
  - 11 – 18 years

If someone you know has experienced online sexual abuse or you have concerns this is happening to someone you know please report it using this link - [www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/). They can offer guidance on how to protect and support.

## 4. National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)

[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety)

Provides guidance on how to protect children when online such as:

- What action to take if you're worried about something happening online
- How to talk to children about their online safety
- Advice on how to manage children's mental wellbeing
- Advice on action to take regarding inappropriate or sexual behaviour online

