West Sussex Safeguarding Children
E-Safety Strategy

Contents

Introduction

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and the West Sussex Safeguarding Children Board (WSSCB) takes seriously the statutory role it has to ensure that member agencies co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in West Sussex and to ensure that it is effective in doing so.

As part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in accordance with the Children Act 2004 and Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government, 2013), the WSSCB has developed this e-safety strategy built on four key areas:

- Policies, practices and procedures;
- Education and training;
- Infrastructure and technology;
- Standards and inspection.

The WSSCB will be looking to member agencies for their support and co-operation in developing an environment where children and young people can use the internet and other digital technologies safely.

Purpose of the Strategy

The WSSCB is committed to raising awareness of e-safety issues to all partner organisations and promoting good practice to reduce risks to children and young people when they are online or when using digital electronic technologies.

This strategy has been written to provide the e-safety framework for member agencies of the WSSCB and other agencies and organisations who work with children and young people within the West Sussex area.

It cannot, and does not attempt to, cover all arrangements for agencies, organisations and educational establishments working in the area and should be seen as guidance to help inform what local agencies, organisations and educational establishments need to do to ensure they are equipped to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in a digital age. The strategy recognises that being safe on line is not just a matter of technology and that a comprehensive approach to e-safety is necessary

Background

"All agencies providing services to children have a duty to understand e-safety issues, recognising their role in helping children to remain safe online while also supporting adults who care for children."

Becta 2008, Safeguarding Children in a Digital World

E-safety is the process of limiting risks to children and young people when using Information and Communications Technology (ICT). E-safety is primarily a safeguarding issue not a technological issue, which relates to the use of all ICT- fixed or mobile; current, emerging and future ICT.

ICT is used daily as a tool to improve teaching, learning, communication and working practices to the benefit of our children and young people and those that work to support them. The use of ICT is recognised as being of significant benefit to all members of our community, in personal, social, professional and educational contexts. However alongside these benefits, there are potential risks that we have a statutory duty of care to manage, to ensure they do not become actual dangers to children and young people in our care or for employees.

E-Safety Risks & Issues

E-safety risks and issues can be roughly classified into three areas: content, contact and conduct. The following are basic examples of the types of e-safety risk and issues that could fall under each category.

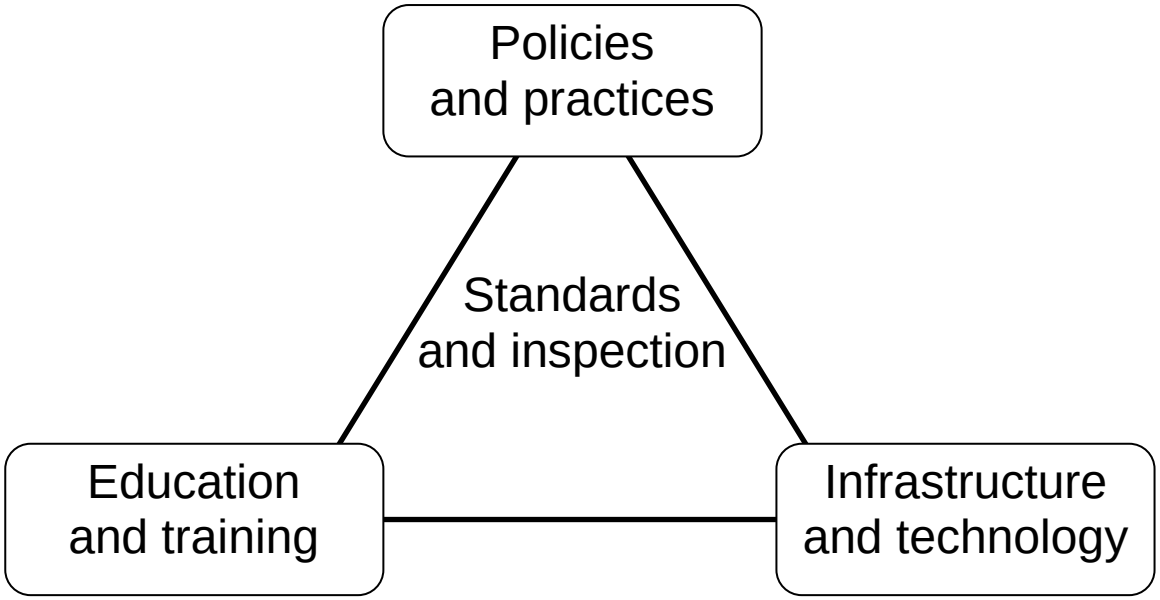
	Commercial	**Aggressive**	**Sexual**	**Values**
Content (child as recipient)	Adverts Spam Sponsorship Personal info	Violent/hateful content	Pornographic or unwelcome sexual content	Bias Racist Misleading info or advice
Contact (child as participant)	Tracking Harvesting personal info	Being bullied, harassed or stalked	Meeting strangers Being groomed	Self-harm Unwelcome persuasions
Conduct (child as actor)	Illegal downloading Hacking Gambling Financial scams Terrorism	Bullying or harassing another	Creating and uploading inappropriate material	Providing misleading info/ advice

DSCF, 2008 - Safer Children in a Digital Word: The report of the Byron Review

Key Measures for Limiting E-Safety Risks

The WSSCB supports the use of the Becta PIES model which offers an effective strategic framework for approaching e-safety. This model illustrates how a combination of effective policies and practices, education and training, infrastructure and technology underpinned by standards and inspection can be an effective approach to manage and limit e-safety risks.

PIES Model for Limiting E-Safety Risks



Becta 2008 - Safeguarding Children in a Digital World

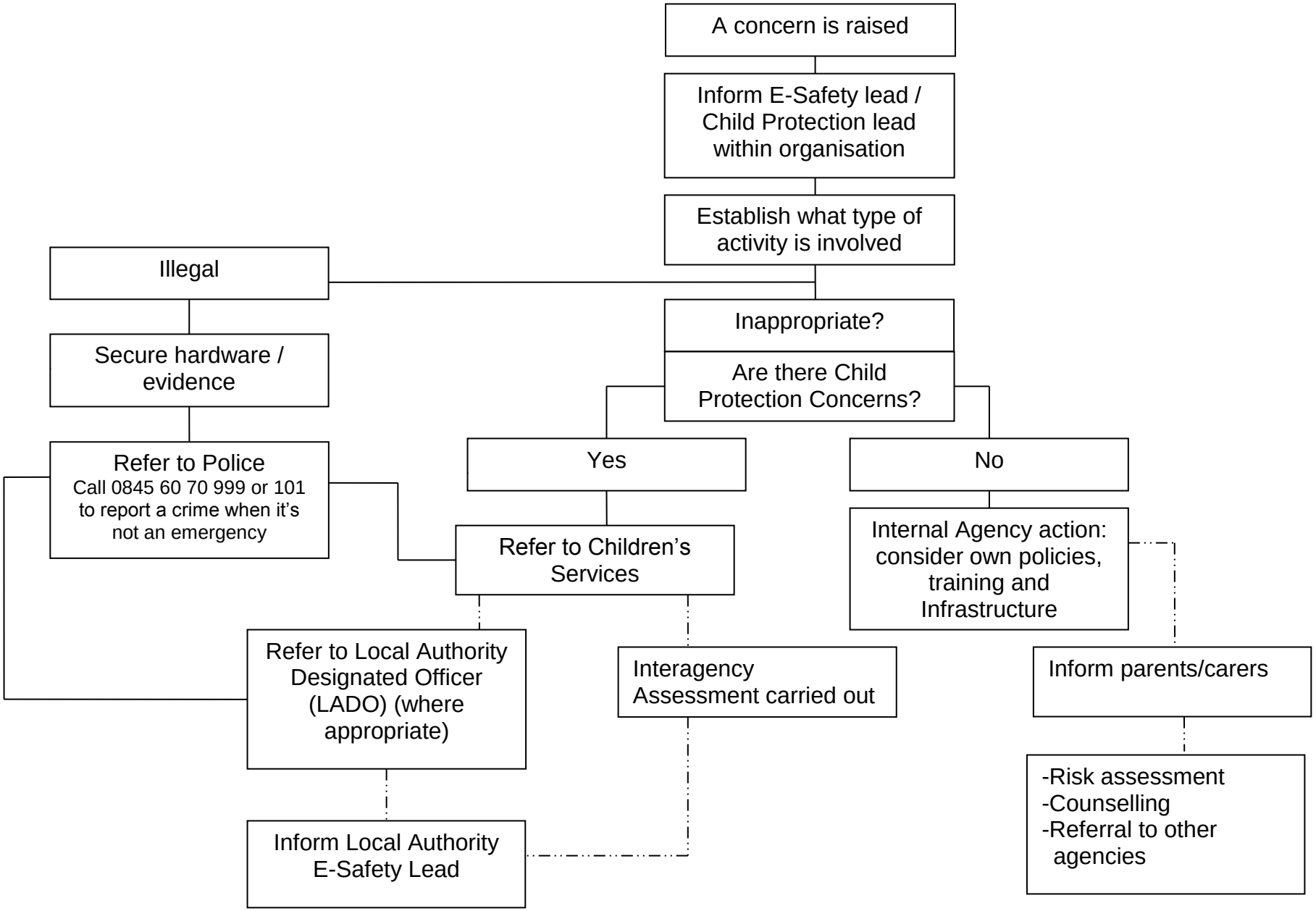
Policies & Practices

Any organisation that has contact with children and young people should:

- Appoint a dedicated e-safety lead;
- Create and maintain an e-safety policy;
- Make sure that appropriate Acceptable Use of ICT Policy and Staff User Agreements are in place;
- Have a procedure in place for reporting an e-safety incident, e.g. clear lines of reporting incidents of misuse of ICT by users and safeguarding incidents when a user is at risk or has come to actual harm through the use of ICT;
- Review and evaluate all internal policies and procedures (at least every
  12 months or in response to new technologies or e-safety incidents if sooner

Procedures

Recommended steps to follow, if a child is believed to be at risk through the use of ICT



Infrastructure & Technology

All organisations providing services to children and young people which also provide access to ICT should:

- Identify all technologies used within the organisation itself and carry out risk assessments with regards to e-safety;
- Consider the use of additional software and/or settings for technologies to limit the e-safety risk;
- Use up to date security software / solutions for technologies;
- Where Internet access is available, Becta advises that a web content filtering product or service must as a minimum:

  i) Subscribe to the Internet Watch Foundation Child Abuse Images and Content (CAIC) URL List;

  ii) Block 100% of illegal material identified by the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF);

  iii) Capable of blocking 90% of inappropriate content in each of the following categories:

    - Pornographic, adult, tasteless or offensive material;
    - Violence (including weapons and bombs);
    - Racist, extremist and hate material;
    - Illegal drug taking and promotion;
    - Criminal skills and software piracy.

Education & Training

Any organisation that has contact with children and young people should aim to raise awareness of e-safety through education and training.

E-safety training should be incorporated into the organisation's children's workforce training strategy, e.g. safety awareness, acceptable use, safeguarding procedures. This should include induction of new staff, plus on-going support and supervision of existing staff. Staff should be made aware of local, regional and national issues with regards to e-safety and should be confident in their abilities to escalate an incident as necessary and appropriate.

An organisation should also consider their role in giving e-safety information and guidance to children, young people, parents and carers.

There are many training resources and support materials dealing with the issues of e-safety with children, young people, parents and professionals which can be used by your organisation.

Professionals

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) Safety Centre	http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
Childnet International	http://www.childnet.com
Know IT All	http://www.childnet-int.org/kia/
Professionals Online Safety Helpline (UKSIC)	Email helpline@saferinternet.org.uk or telephone 0844 381 4772
SWGfL Staying-Safe (South West Grid for Learning)	http://www.swgfl.org.uk/Staying-Safe
Think U Know (CEOP)	http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
UK Safer Internet Centre (UKSIC)	http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/

Children, Young People & Families

A Parent's Guide to Technology (UKSIC)	http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/a-parents-guide
Connect Safely	http://www.connectsafely.org
Digizen	http://www.digizen.org
KidSmart	http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/
Get Safe Online	http://www.getsafeonline.org/
Know IT All	http://www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents/
Think U Know	http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

Standards and Inspection

Quality assurance activity is essential to ensuring that policies and strategies are effective. This may include:

- Gathering relevant information to establish the extent of current awareness and training resources available;
- Review and evaluate all internal policies and procedures (at least every
  12 months or in response to new technologies or e-safety incidents if sooner);
- Developing a mechanism for reporting the number of e-safety incidents;
- Developing an audit plan to assess the extent to which e-safety is incorporated into safeguarding activity.

Monitoring and Review of this Strategy

This strategy will be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis (or sooner in response to new technologies or e-safety incidents).

Glossary of Related Terms

Blogging & Social Networking is part of a social and technological revolution that some people are calling Web 2.0. What's different about it is the ease with which anyone can produce and distribute their own content and link with like-minded sites to create a very powerful network for sharing ideas and influence opinion. Young people especially love this new environment because they can have a powerful voice to express their identity and opinions. However there are safety issues to consider for both young users, parents, industry and education. http://www.childnet.com/blogsafety/index.html
Cyber bullying is the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), particularly mobile phones and the internet, deliberately to upset someone else. http://www.digizen.org/cyberbullying
Downloading refers to receiving information or data electronically usually through the Internet; this could include saving a document or picture from a website or media streaming, e.g. music or video. Uploading is the inverse; sending and saving information or data from a local system e.g. mobile phone or computer, to a remote system, e.g. a website http://www.childnet.com/downloading
E-Safety is the process of limiting risks to children and young people when using Information and Communications Technology (ICT). E-safety is primarily a safeguarding issue not a technological issue, which relates to the use of all ICT- fixed or mobile; current, emerging and future ICT.
Filtering software can help to block a lot of inappropriate material but they are not 100% effective and are no substitute for good parental involvement. Internet use at school is generally filtered, supervised and safe. But many children use the Net at friends' homes, Internet cafes, libraries and youth clubs where there may be no filters and little supervision.
A **Firewall** is a buffer between your computer and the Internet. It limits both incoming and outgoing information, and keeps your computer safe from intruders. It can't stop you downloading spyware, but it can alert you if a program is sending information over the Internet without your permission.

Hacking is when your details, online accounts or other personal information is accessed by a stranger. http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
ICT – Information and Communications Technology, e.g. mobile phones, gaming consoles, computers, email, social networking.
Identity Theft is "when your personal information is used by someone else without your knowledge. It may support criminal activity, which could involve fraud or deception". [The Home Office] http://www.childnet.com/sorted
LADO - Local Area Designated Officer**.** The LADO is appointed by the local authority to manage allegations against people who work with children and young people.
LSCB - Children can only be safeguarded properly if the key agencies work effectively together. Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) are designed to help ensure that this happens. The core membership of LSCBs is set out in the Children Act 2004, and includes local authorities, health bodies, the police and others. The objective of LSCBs is to coordinate and to ensure the effectiveness of their member agencies in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
Spam & Phishing - "Spam: Commercial e-mails, generally advertising products or services available to buy online, sent to a large number of recipients without their consent. Phishing: Internet fraudsters who send spam or pop-up messages to lure personal information from unsuspecting victims." [US Federal Trade Commission] http://www.childnet.com/sorted
Spyware & Adware - "A general term for malicious software that is designed to take control of a computer without the consent of the user. Adware is one type of spyware - computer programs in which commercial advertisements are automatically shown to the user without their consent." [Wikipedia.org] http://www.childnet.com/sorted
URL – Universal Resource Locator or website address
VoIP - Voice Over Internet Protocol "commonly refers to the communication protocols, technologies, methodologies, and transmission techniques involved in the delivery of voice communications and multimedia sessions over Internet Protocol (IP) networks, such as Internet". [Wikipedia.org]

Information & Organisations

CEOP - The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre is part of UK police and is dedicated to protecting children from sexual abuse wherever they may be. That means building intelligence around the risks, tracking and bringing offenders to account either directly or with local and international forces and working with children and parents to deliver our unique Think U Know educational programme. http://ceop.police.uk
Childnet International's mission is to work in partnership with others around the world to help make the Internet a great and safe place for children. Childnet works in 3 main areas of Access, Awareness, Protection & Policy. http://www.childnet.com
DfE - The Department for Education is responsible for education and children's services. http://www.education.gov.uk
WSSCB – Local Safeguarding Children Board for West Sussex www.westsussex.gov.uk/lscb
IWF – The Internet Watch Foundation was established in 1996 by the UK internet industry to provide the UK internet 'Hotline' for the public and IT professionals to report potentially illegal online content within their remit and to be the 'notice and take-down' body for this content. IWF works in partnership with the online industry, law enforcement, government, the education sector, charities, international partners and the public to minimise the availability of this content, specifically, child sexual abuse content hosted anywhere in the world and criminally obscene and incitement to racial hatred content hosted in the UK. http://www.iwf.org.uk
Know IT All for Parents contains advice for parents and carers, and a special section for children and young people. http://www.childnet.com/kia/parents/

Report Abuse http://ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
UK Safer Internet Centre (UKSIC) - The UK Safer Internet Centre is co-funded by the European Commission and brought to you by a partnership of three leading organisations, Childnet International, the South West Grid for Learning and the Internet Watch Foundation. The UK Safer Internet Centre has three main functions: An Awareness Centre, a Helpline and a Hotline. http://www.saferinternet.org.uk

Risk through the use of ICT.