

# Safeguarding 7 minute briefing: Online Safety

## Questions

- Do you know how we address Online Safety as part of our Safeguarding provision?
- Do you understand your professional obligations and codes of conduct?
- Being professionally curious - do you routinely consider online aspects in your day-to-day role?

## What to do

Do not be put off by the technology (remember it remains Safeguarding). Ensure you are child-centric in your approach – what may not initially appear to be a significant concern to an adult could be a life-changing issue for a child.

## Policies, procedures, training

Understand escalation options before they arise – make sure you know what is in the policies and procedures.  
Have you completed the Flick e-safety training?

## Information

Whilst C&YP may appear to have more **knowledge** about the online environment, they will not necessarily possess the associated **wisdom** that comes through life experience. Being careful what we share as adults is also important – with the best of intentions, sharing an unverified story, particularly those picked up from Social Media, can have the opposite effect to that intended.

## Background

Online Safety covers a broad, continually developing agenda around online risks including Child Sexual Exploitation, Sexting/Nude Image Sharing, Bullying, Radicalisation, Gaming, Inappropriate Content and undoubtedly, the impact of Social Media. Children interact with the online world at an increasingly younger age.  
It also applies to us, from keeping us safe, upholding professional standards of conduct (both in and outside of the work environment) to setting positive examples as role models.

## Why it matters

Unlike previous generations, we cannot adequately consider the safeguarding and wellbeing of C&YP without considering their relationship to technology. Equipping our C&YP with the skills and confidence to recognise the potential risks will help them to develop into confident and resilient users of the online environment

## Information

Knowledge versus Wisdom - adults and professionals often cite children's affinity for technology versus their own perceived lack of knowledge as a major barrier to having discussions about staying safe in the online world.



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