



PIER TRAINING SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

The Online Safety Act: what it means for children and professionals



The [Online Safety Act 2023](#) sets out to minimise these risks, placing new legal duties and responsibilities on online service providers to keep children and young people safe online.

How will the act keep children safe?

Tech companies running social networking sites or search engines must promote online safety by tackling illegal material and content that is harmful to children, conducting regular risk assessments, and properly enforcing age limits. The regulator Ofcom will enforce the regulatory framework and raise awareness around online safety.

Companies will now need to prevent, detect and remove illegal content. This includes content depicting, promoting or facilitating:

- child sexual abuse
- controlling or coercive behaviour
- terrorism
- suicide

How will the Online Safety Act affect professionals working with children?

Read more [here](#) and check what is new and bring your knowledge up to date.

Inside the issue:

The Online Safety Act: what it means for children and professionals

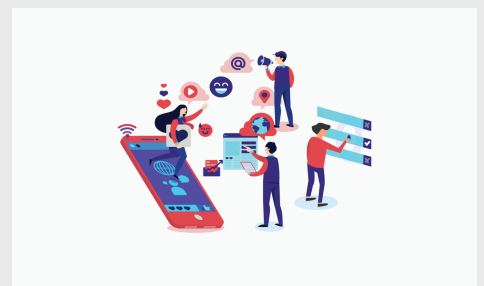
Have you heard the term 'cyberflashing'?

Working together in new ways to prevent abuse

What if I find harmful content on a website or app?

Do you know who your local authority Safeguarding Partner is?

Have you heard the term 'cyberflashing'?



'Cyberflashing' criminalises the sending an explicit image for the purpose of sexual gratification or to cause the recipient humiliation, alarm or distress

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Working together in new ways to prevent abuse



The NSPCC have launched their 'Together for Childhood' campaign which is an innovative, evidenced-informed programme which brings local partners and families together to make communities safer for children.

The three types of interventions include:

- primary (universal) interventions – stopping abuse before it occurs
- secondary (targeted) interventions – reducing the impact of an ongoing issue
- tertiary (specialist) interventions – helping children after abuse has occurred.

Click the image to watch the video.

What if I find harmful content on a website or app?



Ofcom's job is to make sure online services, like sites and apps, meet their duties to protect their users.

- Step 1 – Report directly to the service
- Step 2 – If you remain concerned, you can contact [Ofcom](#)

Regulated online services include:

- user-to-user services (that is, sites and apps that host user-generated content, like social media);
- search engines;
- services with pornographic content; and
- video-sharing platforms.

Complain to Ofcom [HERE](#)

Do you know who your local authority Safeguarding Partner is?



Did you know? The local authority chief executive, the accountable officer of a clinical commissioning group, and a chief officer of police in your locality have equal and joint responsibility for local safeguarding arrangements. They have a shared statutory responsibility for leading safeguarding arrangements to ensure that safeguarding children is everyone's business.

Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP) is our local group overseeing how organisations work together to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children and young people in Birmingham.