

The Gilbert Safeguarding Update Nov 29th 2023

What is topical this week in the world of Safeguarding and Online safety?

NSPCC Report - Online Risks to Children

The NSPCC have released their latest evidence review based on online harms to children spanning the period 2017 - 2023 with a large focus on online sexual risks and the role of technology. There's a lot of detail in the 83-page report going into the nature and scale of online risks, the platforms used, children most likely to be exposed to risk and children's responses to encountering risks.

Here is the link to the Executive Summary- much shorter and gives a brief overview of the report:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/0t5awnz0/online-risks-children-evidence-review-executive-summary.pdf>

AI CSAM

I make no apologies for going on about this for a few weeks now, but the stark reality is that students being targeted by offenders, and students creating Artificial Intelligence generated CSAM of other students is now real and is being reported by schools worldwide, including here in the UK (see a short article in The Guardian [HERE](#)).

Very simplistically, two types of

- Offenders (often from other countries) de-clothing innocent images of students who have posted online, e.g. social media. These are then used for the purpose of blackmail, often with the threat of sharing with school friends/family. This is sextortion.
- Students using innocent images of other students (e.g. posted on social media), de-clothing them using AI, then sharing with other students.

For practical advice for removing images of concern please follow this link here:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove/>

For Parents - What are Social Media Scams?

With online scams on the rise worldwide, particularly at this time of year, it's important we are all aware of what scams are, the common types of scams and helpful tips. Internet Matters have a great information page for parents with lots of useful information, but I think there is a lot of really useful information to use in the classroom too. You can find all the information [HERE](#).

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-money-management-guide/social-media-scams-advice-guide-to-support-young-people/>

Download our new #WakeUpWednesday guide!

What Schools Need to Know about the Online Safety Act

The infographic is titled "What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT". It features a central illustration of three diverse children (two boys and one girl) looking at a smartphone. The background is a vibrant, colorful scene with a rainbow and a magnifying glass. The infographic is divided into several sections:

- WHAT THE ACT WILL DO:** A central heading.
- HARMFUL CONTENT:** A section with a red background and a magnifying glass icon.
- NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING:** A section with a red background and a smartphone icon.
- ANIMAL CRUELTY:** A section with a red background and a dog icon.
- SEXUATING AND EXPOSING:** A section with a red background and a person icon.
- MORE TRANSPARENCY:** A section with a red background and a document icon.
- AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL:** A section with a red background and a person icon.
- HOODING, MISLEADING ADVERTS:** A section with a red background and a person icon.
- What this means for you:** A central section with a purple background.
- KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP:** A section with a purple background and a person icon.
- REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS:** A section with a purple background and a person icon.
- WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS:** A section with a purple background and a person icon.
- UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN:** A section with a purple background and a person icon.
- ENGAGE WITH PARENTS:** A section with a purple background and a person icon.
- Meet Our Expert:** A section with a purple background and a person icon.

At the bottom, there is a large "18" icon, the National Online Safety logo, and the hashtag #WakeUpWednesday. Social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn are also present.

Protecting children 🧒 Blocking illegal material 🚫 Removing harmful content on major platforms 📱 Those are the three main goals of the Online Safety Act, which entered UK law in October. While demanding more accountability from social media companies in particular, the act revises – rather than replaces – the current digital safeguarding duties placed on schools.