UKCOUNCIL FOR CHILD INTERNET SAFETY NEWS BULLETIN

UKCCIS Executive Board Meeting 9 June: The new Ministers introduced themselves and explained their remits. Claudio Pollack (Ofcom) gave an update on the work of the Social Media Working Group, then introduced Andrea Parola from the ICT Coalition who outlined the current work in Europe. There was discussion about the removal of inappropriate content on social media sites. Updates were also received from other working groups. Full minutes of this meeting are available at the .gov pages: https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/uk-council-for-child-internet-safety-ukccis.

Next meeting: 8 September 2015

Government News:

| The UKCCIS Board welcomed two new Ministers:  |  |
| Baroness Joanna Shields, Minister for Internet Safety and Security, DCMS. She takes the place of Ed Vaizey MP |  |
| Karen Bradley MP, Minister for Preventing Abuse and Exploitation, Home Office. She takes the place of Mike Penning MP |  |
| Edward Timpson MP, Minister for Children and Families, remains on the Board |  |

The Department for Education has recently published the following guidance:

- *Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers*  
- *What to do if you’re worried a child is being abused: Advice for practitioners*  
- *Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance*  
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children* statutory guidance:  
The government response to the consultation on Working Together is at the following link: 

See - https://www.gov.uk/government/latest?departments%5B%5D=department-for-education for all papers.

The Scottish Executive has asked us to highlight The National Digital Learning Forum events that began in June, but continue throughout July, which will be looking at:

- How does technology currently support, enhance and improve learning for Scotland’s young people?
- What’s working? What’s not? Where is the evidence to support digital learning and teaching

The events will be used to help develop a solid evidence base about the potential impact of technology in schools, which will help to set the direction of the Digital Learning and Teaching Programme for the coming period. In particular, to understand how digital technology contributes to the 5 key priorities for education in Scotland.


The Second Reading of Baroness Howe’s Online Safety Bill took place on Friday 17 July. The bill’s main aims were:

- To require internet service providers (ISPs) and mobile network operators (MNOs) to provide subscribers with an internet service which excludes adult content, except where subscribers have opted-in to receive such content and have done so in line with the age verification processes set out in the Bill.
- To set a number of duties on Ofcom in relation to the setting of standards for the filtering of content and age verification.
- Require ISPs and MNOs to provide information on online safety to customers, and: require the Secretary of State to provide a means of educating parents of those aged under 18 about online safety.
- To extend the requirement for Video on Demand (VOD) content to be put behind access controls to 18 content. To require the payments industry to block payments for harmful content if it is not put behind access controls (age-verification scheme)
- To set up a regulatory authority to determine if material is harmful to under 18s
- A requirement for overseas providers of adult content to be licenced, to ensure that they have age controls, before their websites are available in Britain;
- That the payments industry should block payment to websites that do not have such a licence;
- That the provisions in the Bill shall come into force within 6 months of it being passed.

B Shields responded for the Government, and did not support the Bill. The Hansard for the 2nd reading can be found at: http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/id201516/idhansrd/text/150717-0001.htm#15071758000278
**UKCCIS Member News:**
This section can be used to highlight significant projects and announcements undertaken by UKCCIS members. If you have anything for this section, please e-mail us at ukccis.secretariat@culture.gov.uk. We will endeavour to include contributions, taking account of feedback to keep this relevant.

| Ofcom | Ofcom’s Children’s Media Lives is a new three-year study, following the same 8-15 year olds each year to explore how they are using digital media and what they think about topics including content creation, funding and online safety. The study will also explore how digital media use evolves over time as children develop and respond to external changes such as new schools, friendships and access to new technology.  
Eighteen children were interviewed for this first report and, although the number of participants is small, they have been chosen to reflect a broad cross-section of UK children in terms of age, location, ethnicity, social circumstances and access to technology.  
Ofcom’s Media Lives research complements Ofcom’s comprehensive quantitative [media literacy](#) research by providing an in-depth and detailed insight into use of, and attitudes towards, digital media. You can find the report [here](#). |
| CEOP | CEOP have launched 'Nude Selfies: What Parents and Carers Need to Know’. This is a series of four short animated films for parents and carers offering advice on how to help keep their children safe from the risks associated with sharing nude and nearly nude images. The films can be seen at [www.youtube.com/ceop](https://www.youtube.com/ceop)  
The films aim to help parents and carers:  
- Understand young people’s motivations for sending nude selfies.  
- Plan to respond positively and constructively to an incident in which their child has shared a nude selfie.  
- Gain confidence and skills in initiating preventative conversations.  
- Identify risky behaviours or situations and know where to seek help.  
- Know how to get help if a child is at risk after sharing an image.  
The Nude Selfies films are accompanied by a guidance pack including a suggested session plan and practitioner guidance for delivering an effective workshop. They are based on research findings from the European Commission-funded SPIRTO (Self-Produced Images: Risk Taking Online) Project and include: Film One: Understanding Why; Film Two: Talking to your child; Film Three: When should I be worried?; Film Four: How to get help  
The films are based on a two-year qualitative investigation led by the University of Edinburgh in partnership with the University of Linköping (Sweden), Innocence in Danger (Germany) and the CEOP Command of the National Crime Agency. |
| **Barnardo's Marie Collins Foundation** | New Associate member, Barnardo’s, will be publishing some research on new research on child sexual exploitation and the internet on 15 July. In 2004 Barnardo’s published ‘Just One Click!’, a report that looked at new technologies and their links with children being harmed online. Ten years on, Barnardo’s and the Marie Collins Foundation have revisited the relationships between CSE and the internet. Drawing on existing research, and interviews with Barnardo’s service practitioners; young people and their carers, the report looks at how technology has developed; how this development has affected children and the impact on agencies working to protect children. The report concludes with recommendations on how to move the agenda forward. Keep an eye on the Barnado’s website ([http://www.barnardos.org.uk/news.htm](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/news.htm)) or contact Carron Fox for a copy: carron.fox@barnardos.org.uk |
| **Childnet** | Childnet has asked us to draw your attention to Ofsted changes to online safety inspections: Ofsted has published the long awaited changes to the way it inspects all early years, education and skills settings, including schools from September 2015. This includes significant changes to how they consider and inspect Online Safety. SWGfL / UK Safer Internet Centre highlights the changes and explains what the implications are. [http://swgfl.org.uk/news/News/E-Safety/Making-Sense-of-the-New-Online-Safety-Standards](http://swgfl.org.uk/news/News/E-Safety/Making-Sense-of-the-New-Online-Safety-Standards)  

**Childnet’s Film Competition, in partnership with PhonepayPlus**  
Hundreds of young people have taken part in Childnet’s Film Competition, which invites young people aged 7-18 years to create short films to educate their peers about internet safety. In its sixth year, the competition culminates in a finalists’ event at the BFI where the young people are invited to showcase their films on the big screen. Teaming up with the UK regulator, PhonepayPlus, this year’s competition includes a whole new category focusing on in-app purchases and other hidden costs. An online survey of over a thousand young people is exploring these issues in further detail, revealing the extent to which young people are falling into difficulty with accidental in-app purchases. Find out more [www.childnet.com/film-competition](http://www.childnet.com/film-competition)  

**Childnet Digital Leaders Programme**  
Launching in September 2015, the Childnet Digital Leaders Programme aims to empower young people to champion digital citizenship and digital creativity within their schools and to educate their peers, parents and teachers about staying safe online. With support from Facebook and the European Commission, this youth leadership programme will offer young people structured training and ongoing support from Childnet’s expert team, equipping them to deliver a range of impactful e-safety activities in school throughout the year – |
from peer education sessions to staff training and wider. Young people continue to play a central role in shaping this programme, which has been tested and adapted through a successful pilot.

Find out more [www.childnet.com/digital-leaders](http://www.childnet.com/digital-leaders)

**Safer Internet Day 2016**

Safer Internet Day will take place on 9th February 2016, with the slogan ‘Play your part for a better internet!’. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. Globally, Safer Internet Day was celebrated in over a hundred countries, coordinated by the joint Insafe/INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and national Safer Internet Centres across Europe.

Find out more [www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day)

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<th><strong>Twitter</strong></th>
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| Twitter’s have launched their new Safety Centre. [The Safety Center](#) is a resource for anyone to learn about online safety, on Twitter and beyond. This resource is a result of Twitter’s ongoing work with a range of groups to promote good digital citizenship. It is organized around Twitter’s tools and policies to address safety, with sections created especially for teens, parents and educators.  

Twitter has, over the last few months, introduced significant changes to the site to encourage a safer and more responsible environment. They started with [changes to reporting of harassment](#) that saw a fivefold increase of our incoming volume of tickets. They tripled their staff and rolled out [further changes to reporting](#) of suicide, self-harm, sharing of private information, impersonation, [violent threats](#) and ads. Twitter continued to work on their blocking feature and after introducing a single interface for users to be able to manage their blocked list and also added a feature that enables users to [import it and export it](#).  

Twitter worked with a variety of groups to create materials aimed at teenagers, parents, educators and groups who unfortunately face regular abuse online. Their goal with the safety centre is to capture these materials and to have a one stop shop where people can find information about digital citizenship and safety resources. |
## UKCCIS Working Group update

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<th>Group</th>
<th>Chair / Lead</th>
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<th>Latest information</th>
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<td><strong>1. Filtering</strong></td>
<td>Dave Miles, FOSI</td>
<td>The Filtering Working Group brings together the UK’s leading ISPs, mobile operators and public Wi-Fi providers around the deployment of family-friendly network filters. This multi-stakeholder group’s main aim is to share best practice, promote the benefits of filtering and issues that arise from filtering. The group will also track device-side filtering and emerging technologies.</td>
<td>The UKCCIS Filtering Working Group held its inaugural meeting on 30th April at the DCMS. Chaired by Dave Miles, Director of the Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI), the group will hold quarterly meetings, provide a verbal quarterly report to the UKCCIS Executive Board and publish its first annual report in April 2016. The overall aim of the working group is to consolidate those UKCCIS stakeholder organisations that have been tasked with deploying family-friendly network level filtering. Key objectives include the sharing best practice, informing and educating organisations and citizens on the benefits of filtering. The group seeks to better understand the implications of browser encryption and circumvention on family-friendly network filtering. We will also track the requirements for filtering across emerging technology platforms and devices (i.e. Smart TV, Cars and Internet of Things).</td>
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| **2. Age Verification** | Dr Rachel O’Connell | Represent the interests of Child Internet Safety to Government and other age verification groups, such as Cabinet Office’s Electronic Identity Assurance programme boards and the Digital Policy Alliance. UKCCIS members interested in considering the implications of age verification to address one of the longest standing online child safety issues, should contact the UKCCIS Secretariat (ukccis.secretariat@culture.gov.uk). | **INVITATION:** Symposium: Online Age Verification Legislation is Imminent – What Does This Mean For You? – British Library, 22 September 2015  
Impending changes in legislation, regulatory oversight and enforcement methods mean that online age verification is not only an issue for the adult sector but also for a number of other sectors including gambling, e-cigarettes, tobacco, adult, education, crowd funding, online dating and e-tail. These sectors have come together under the Digital Policy Alliance’s, Age Verification Group to develop a new British Standards Institution (BSI Group) – Public Accessibility Standard (PAS) for Age Verification.  
The PAS will address age verification solutions premised on a ‘verify once, use many times’ model that will enable businesses to address the legal, policy and regulatory requirements to verify the age band into which a user fits; and to do so in a manner that relies on data either |
from corroborative or authoritative sources. Age verification will operate on the principles of data minimization; it will be privacy preserving, commercially viable and underpinned by clear liability models. Ultimately in the UK, there is now a twin track approach to age verification – legislation and a PAS – which is one of the major reasons for convening this symposium.

For further details and tickets, see [http://trustelevate.com/ageverificationsymposium/](http://trustelevate.com/ageverificationsymposium/)

| 3. Social Media | Claudio Pollack, Ofcom | During Ofcom’s chairmanship the group will produce a practical guide/ toolkit on child online safety for social media services on existing best practices from UKCCIS members. It will be based on the six ICT Coalition Principles and be addressed to start-ups and smaller social media providers. The long-term aim is to encourage good practice by industry through an outreach programme led by UKCCIS members. | The second meeting of the Working Group on 20th March addressed the information gathering needs of the group’s work. |
| 4. Education | Jonathan Baggaley, CEOP | The group’s objectives are: 1. Mapping of the current internet safety landscape in schools and other education settings (to include PRUs and special schools but excluding youth work services and settings). 2. Production of a document for schools and education settings providing supplementary guidance on developing a whole school approach to addressing internet safety. In line with the UKCCIS Social Media Working Group this aims to be a practical guide. | The Education Group will meet again shortly to begin work as set out here. |
outlining key issues, providing examples of best practice, things to think about, etc.

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<th>5. Evidence</th>
<th>Prof. Julia Davidson, Middlesex University</th>
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| **Research and evidence** is vital to inform the promotion of a safer online environment for children. The UKCCIS Evidence Group provides UKCCIS with a timely, critical and rigorous account of the most relevant research. It includes representatives from academia, government, NGOs and industry, and meets regularly in order to identify, evaluate and commission new research relevant to child internet safety. The group has been restructured to include two groups of members, Core and Associate. The membership will still include researchers and research users/practitioners:

**Core members**
Will bring expertise in and take responsibility for one of the key areas (Education & safety; online child abuse and offending; children’s use of technology (including gaming); parental awareness and supervision; vulnerable children and young people; research informed practice- these are not fixed and other areas will be included where relevant), it is recognised that there will be some overlap between areas and several members will work on one area, but each area should have a core member lead. Core members will also act as link person in their area with the other sub-groups.

**Associate members**

The Group continues to meet, and is looking at ways that policy recommendations can be presented to the Executive Board.

**Two New items have been published:**


Designing the research agenda for children’s rights in the digital age on a global scale is a major undertaking, as discussed by multi-national experts at a recent LSE seminar co-hosted with UNICEF and EU Kids Online. See [http://www.lse.ac.uk/media@lse/research/Researching-Childrens-Rights-Globally-in-the-Digital-Age.aspx](http://www.lse.ac.uk/media@lse/research/Researching-Childrens-Rights-Globally-in-the-Digital-Age.aspx) for expert videos and the full report.

*The Evidence group has also published a guide to producing good quality research - please help us disseminate this work.*

The Evidence Group produces a Research Highlights Series which summarises new national and international research findings as they become available. The Evidence Group exercises editorial control over the selection and production of these Research Highlights, and we invite researchers and stakeholders to inform us of recent and ongoing research, there are currently 81 research
Associate members will be affiliated with the Evidence Group, names will be added to the website with key areas of expertise. They will be called upon to contribute focused pieces of work and presentations, and will be asked to keep the Core group informed about current research.

The new Terms of Reference are as follows:

1. To provide UKCCIS with a timely, critical and rigorous account of relevant national and international research;
2. To meet regularly in order to identify and review new research relevant to child internet safety and online child abuse;
3. To provide research expertise in key areas including: Education & safety; online child abuse and offending; children's use of technology (including gaming); parental awareness and supervision; vulnerable children and young people; research informed practice (please send any other suggestions);
4. To liaise directly with the other UKCCIS sub-groups;
5. To provide an annual overview of child Internet safety based upon research indicators.

Highlights available at [http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/research](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/research). We also run a series of specialist seminars that present current research findings the last one was organised by Tink Palmer & Professor Julia Davidson and hosted by CEOP and the EU Kids Online, and ran in September 2014 focusing on research informed practice with children and young people harmed by online abuse.