



CHILD EXPLOITATION AND ONLINE PROTECTION CENTRE

CHILD PROTECTION INFORMATION

KNOWLEDGE PRIOR TO USE

1. Staff who are presenting the training should be familiar with the Child Protection Procedure and know how to make a direct referral to Police and Social Services, should the need arise. Contact details will be found in the **Local Children's Safeguarding Board's Procedural Handbook**.
2. The schools involved will need to be adequately briefed and prepared about the format and content of the presentation.
3. Schools should be encouraged to have the most appropriate staff present.
4. Ensure that you are aware of the named individual in school who is responsible for Child Protection and how to contact them.
5. In schools there is often a member of staff identified as having key responsibility for pastoral care, they should be included in the briefing session along with any staff that will be present.
6. There should be at least one member of staff available outside of the session who can support children if they become distressed, or who may want to talk about their own or other's abusive experiences. Again that member of staff should be familiar with the child protection process and know how to make a Child Protection Referral if necessary.

It is always better to be prepared.

INTRODUCING THE MATERIAL TO YOUNG PEOPLE

1. It is important that children and young people understand that the material may be distressing. It is also important to acknowledge that it may raise issues for children about their own or others abusive experiences. This may be unrelated to sexual abuse and/or internet related crime.
2. When informing young people about the content, explain to them how they will be supported, for example if they are upset or need to leave the room, someone will be available outside to talk to them in private. At that stage they should be told that it is not appropriate to talk about their own or other's abusive experiences within the group.

BE AWARE OF THE IMPACT OF WHAT IS BEING SHOWN AND SAID – BE PREPARED. KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE.

1. There may be children in the audience who have been through a child protection process and who may have been removed from their family as a consequence.
2. Groups should be of a manageable size bearing in mind the sensitivity of the content of the presentation and the child protection issues.
3. Children need to be manageable in the sessions but not inhibited.
4. There needs to be a process agreed for identifying any children for whom there are concerns, along with a feedback process to the most appropriate person.
5. If a child needs to leave during the session because of distress, where will they go?
6. What preparations have been made for after the presentation? E.g. a "drop in" for children who have questions that they were unable to ask in the big group?

IN THE EVENT OF A DISCLOSURE (IMPORTANT)

1. Do not promise to keep it to yourself.
2. Say: "Don't tell me it all now" – "We will have to talk to someone else about this – "I'm not the right person".
3. Ask the child, "Is that OK?"
4. Reassure but do not question them further.
5. Do not tell them that they have done well or use any form of language that can be deemed as rewarding.

Make notes and refer on to the child protection contact.

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

1. 'It's never too late to tell'—It is always important to tell someone when you think an adult is behaving in an inappropriate or abusive manner. You can tell someone at any time no matter how long the abuse has been going on.
2. 'Someone can help you'—There are lots of people who can help children and young people. Give out options of different methods of contact (e.g. **Childline**, **There4me**, visiting police or social services etc).
3. 'You can get support without having to give your name'—Young people can be supported to tell about their abuse, they don't have to make a decision there and then and can access **Childline**, **There4me** or **Crime stoppers** anonymously.
4. Reporting online to CEOP is the same as reporting to the police—so all reports from children and young people will be taken very seriously. This may involve someone from CEOP contacting them or maybe even police officers visiting them—BUT—This will always be done within a confidential environment.

PARENTS AND CARERS

Children may go home distressed after seeing the presentation; ensure that parents are aware the talk will be taking place. Encourage them to take their parents through the **Thinkuknow** site and explain what they do online.

WHERE ELSE TO GO FOR HELP

There are a number of URLs and services that provide further advice and support:

Childline: 0800 11 11

Stop It Now! 0808 1000 900 (an organisation that helps tackle child sexual abuse, targeting adults to act responsibly)

The Samaritans: 0845 790 9090 (confidential, non-judgemental support 24 hours a day)

The Virtual Global Taskforce: www.virtualglobaltaskforce.co.uk

Crimstoppers: 0800 555111

There4me: www.there4me.com (the NSPCC's confidential website)

ANY QUESTIONS?

education@ceop.gov.uk

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

0870 000 3344

