

# 1. Background

Online safety is fundamentally safeguarding where technology is involved. Children and young people spend a lot of time online – it can be a great way to explore, socialise and have fun. However, the online risks facing our children and young people do not conform to geographical boundaries and requires a collective approach across all agencies and county borders.

To this end Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire Safeguarding Children Boards endeavour to provide a collaborative Pan-Lancashire approach.



## Online Safeguarding

# 4. What to do

**Book on the UK Safer Internet Online Safety Briefing being held at Westholme School on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2017, 9.30-11.30am**

**[www.onlinesafetylive.com](http://www.onlinesafetylive.com)**

For safeguarding concerns contact the MASH 01254 666400

Professionals: The UK Safer Internet Centre provides a dedicated Professionals Online Safety Helpline (POSH):

0844 381 2772

Parents and Carers: The NSPCC and O2 have collaborated to produce 'Lets Keep Kids Safe Online' helpline for advice on practical matters:

0808 800 5002 or visit their website [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

# 2. Why it matters

Specific risk areas include (but are not limited to) online child sexual exploitation, grooming, bullying, gaming, sexting, fraud, online addiction and radicalisation amongst others

Just three facts to put this into perspective: nearly three quarters of all children and young people have access to the internet daily. The average 12-15 year old has 272 social network friends and 60% of teens have been asked for a sexual image or video of themselves.

# 3. Information

There is now available a dedicated Pan-Lancashire Online Safety Portal which includes information for:

- schools and the children's workforce,
- information for parents and carers,
- up-to-date online safeguarding news and events; and
- the Pan Lancashire Online Safeguarding Strategy 2017-2019.

There are lots of resources available to view or download in each of the sections.

[www.lancshiresafeguarding.org.uk/online-safeguarding.aspx](http://www.lancshiresafeguarding.org.uk/online-safeguarding.aspx)

The UK Safer Intent Centre are delivering a FREE 2 hour Online Safety Update in January 2017 (see 4). This is open to all who work with children and young people and will give the latest in research, legislation, technology, tools and resources along with exclusive access to the presentation and resource materials after the event.