

## Northern Ireland Executive Online Safety Strategy – Updated Action Plan

### Commitment 1. We will create a sustainable online safety infrastructure for Northern Ireland

<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>LEAD</b>	<b>PARTNERS</b>
1. Engagement of the Children and Young People's Strategy Child Protection Group to oversee online safety.	SBNI	CYPSCPG
2. Ensure children, young people, parents, carers, and professionals can access online safety education and support by providing and promoting the central Online Safety Hub, in conjunction with key stakeholders.	SBNI	CYPSCPG
3. Maintain links between NI and wider UK and global online safety structures; taking account of Ofcom's regulatory powers to protect children from harmful content.	All relevant departments	CYPSCPG SBNI
4. Ensure a consistent approach to online safety across schools in conjunction with the Education Authority, CCMS and other key education partners.	DE	EA CCMS and Schools

### Commitment 2. We will educate children and young people, their parents and carers, and those who work with them

5. Continue to develop and deliver core messaging for children, young people, parents, carers, and professionals, with a focus on action to prevent or respond to online harms.	SBNI	DE, CAFRE, DOH, TEO
6. Produce educational resources to equip and enable parents, carers and educators to support children in special schools to build healthy relationships and behaviours online.	SBNI	DE, EA, TEO

<p>7. Launch the second phase of the Stay Safe Online campaign which uses paid social media advertising to educate young people and adults about online abuse prevention and reporting; aiming to reduce the number of children falling victim to grooming and sextortion, and to reassure those in crisis that support is available.</p>	<p>SBNI</p>	<p>CYPSCPG</p>
<p>8. Deliver educational initiatives aimed at parents and carers to help them to recognise and respond to online harms including youth produced sexual imagery, grooming, sextortion, pornography, misogyny, online bullying, and sexual harassment.</p>	<p>SBNI</p>	<p>TEO</p>
<p>9. Publish and disseminate findings from the online safety training needs analysis of the children's workforce to inform future learning and development initiatives for partners.</p>	<p>SBNI</p>	
<p>10. Build capacity among frontline professionals working with children and families to enable them to identify, support, and safeguard against technology-assisted child sexual abuse.</p>	<p>SBNI</p>	
<p>11. Continued promotion of CCEA's new online safety site, RSE hub and RSE progression Framework, which provide access to information, guidance, support, and resources in relation to online safety.</p>	<p>CCEA</p>	<p>DE, EA, CYPSCP, TEO</p>
<p>12. Development and dissemination of consistent guidance on the need for an online safety lead within schools, colleges and child/youth services including key safeguarding responsibilities and their role in disseminating online safety learning to embed online safety within the wider organisational culture.</p>	<p>DE</p>	

13. Further development of Safer Schools App NI to make better use of the platform to disseminate key messages for schools in terms on pupil safety	DE	
14. Development of a pilot programme to incorporate a baseline knowledge of online safety messaging in third level education where practitioners will eventually work with children, young people and families.	DfE	DoJ, DE, EA, TEO, Teacher Training Facilities
15. Review the current reporting pathways and referral mechanisms to support services when issues arise and develop an agreed reporting pathway to enable children and young people to access support if needed.	SBNI	
<b>Commitment 3. We will develop evidence-informed quality standards for online safety provision</b>		
16. Launch and disseminate the findings of the research review of the perceived barriers and facilitators for young people reporting technology assisted child sexual abuse, to inform future policy and practice development.	SBNI	