



Welcome to the second edition of the e-bulletin from the...

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

...which is designed to bring you the latest news on the development of CEOP Centre.

A close-up portrait of a young girl with light brown hair, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. She is wearing a dark blue top and a thin, gold-colored chain necklace. The background is dark and out of focus.

E-Bulletin...

every child matters everywhere



Reaching out

A fundamental ethos of the CEOP Centre lies in real, practical partnership working with police forces, child protection agencies, NGOs, industry and government departments. It is this partnership approach that will ensure that harm reduction campaigns, intelligence flows and operations work successfully.



In order to begin this process of identifying and developing CEOP partnerships, the NSPCC has kindly seconded the head of its Special Investigation Service, Colin Turner, to champion this work.

Colin has the responsibility to identify and develop effective and meaningful partnerships with CEOP. This could range from secondments of experts, securing specialist support and/or consultancy from national and international agencies and organisations.

Ethical and transparent engagement is key for CEOP and work is currently underway to establish formal arrangements, policies, structures and processes to manage all partnership arrangements.

If you believe you or your organisation can make a meaningful contribution to the CEOP Centre, please send an email for the attention of Colin Turner to: ukcentre4@ncs.police.uk



Smart online, safe offline

This January sees the launch of a new Home Office public awareness campaign on internet safety. Targeting young people and parents, the 'Smart online, Safe offline' campaign revolves around four key issues of unsafe areas, unsafe content, unsafe people and unsafe networks taking into account strangers online, pornographic sites and online bullying.

The key messages to young people are that online experiences can have offline consequences. Parental focused adverts promote the idea that parents should not be dazzled by the technology but use everyday parenting skills and talk to their children about their internet use.

The campaign runs from January until the beginning of April with a series of advertisements that can be found in national print publications, regional radio and in the online environment.



Happy birthday VGT

The website of the Virtual Global Taskforce (VGT) celebrates its first birthday this month.

The site www.virtualglobaltaskforce.com performs three key functions. Firstly, it is the official website of the international alliance that makes up the VGT (Australia, Canada, UK, USA and Interpol). Secondly, it provides advice and information on online safety. Thirdly, and most importantly, it provides the channel by which adults and young people can report online child abuse (the grooming of a child and the sharing of child abuse images) direct to law enforcement.

The VGT site is linked to around 4000 other websites throughout the world and to date has received over a quarter a million visits. Crucially, this has resulted in over 250 reports - half of which involve incidents of grooming of children by adults. All reports are investigated and a number of prosecutions are pending.

The work of the VGT will continue into the CEOP Centre as part of the international desk, within the Harm Reduction faculty. From April the CEOP Centre will take over from the National Crime Squad as the partner agency representing the UK.



An obsolete phrase - 'child pornography'

The language and phrases we use are hugely important especially in the area of child sexual abuse. It is important to be accurate - not in just to say what we actually mean but it is also about recognising the crime, the consequences and the emotional impact that sexual abuse has upon its victims.

The phrase - child pornography - could be considered a contradiction. Generally speaking pornography is the creation of sexually explicit materials that are produced by consenting adults - children are neither adults nor able to give legal consent.

CEOP would recommend the phrases 'child abuse images' or 'indecent photographs of children' are more appropriate.

A capital investment

It's official! The headquarters of the CEOP Centre will be in Pimlico, London.

The building, which will be accessible from the main entrance on Vauxhall Bridge Road, is being renovated inside with a large public reception area which will be furnished with interactive, multi-media and online resources. The renovation also includes the creation of a training / lecture facility from where CEOP will be able to run a variety of training and education courses.



Working together

Even before the name of the CEOP Centre was agreed, it was necessary to secure our position in the strategic planning of the wider safeguarding children programme. Working Together, produced by the Department for Education & Skills (DfES), is the key interagency document for those operating at a local level in child protection. It is only revised every five to ten years and therefore it was crucial that CEOP and its work be included.

Members of the CEOP Programme Team have been driving this work forward which has included providing an up to date overview of safeguarding children within the latest interactive communication technological (ICT) environments. Therefore, putting into context the work of the CEOP Centre, and ensuring a clear understanding of its role and remit.

One part of the document that deals with the way in which agencies should cooperate in child protection has been revised and published early. This was to enable local authorities and partners to finalise local safeguarding children boards (LSCB's) in time for their April deadline. Specific mention is now made to CEOP, concerning key national organisations with whom LCSB's should consult. This is an important step forward for CEOP to enhance existing responses to the sexual exploitation and online abuse of children.

A final "Working Together" document is expected to be published in the Spring. For more information see www.everychildmatters.gov.uk



Stakeholder Seminar 20 January

Friday 20 January saw the first of a series of stakeholder seminars looking at the role and objectives of the CEOP Centre.

Held at Pimlico, London the seminar was an opportunity for stakeholders to get the latest information on the development of CEOP and hear about future plans for the centre. Presentations were given by CEOP Chief Executive Jim Gamble; Nicki Tinkler, Programme Manager; Chris Atkinson, Policy Advisor; Terry Jones, Harm Reduction Advisor and Mike Lanning, Information work stream leader for CEOP and were followed by a question and answer session.

The next stakeholder seminars will be held on 15 February and 7 March. For further information and to reserve a space contact Rav Kalsi on 020 7238 2629 or email on ukcentre4@ncs.police.uk

European Internet Safety Day 7 February

The Museum of London will play host to the UK event for European Internet Safety Day on 7 February.

The theme this year concentrates on user generated content on the internet and will feature a mixture of presentations and workshops on a number of topics including the implications of emerging technology, citizen journalism, law enforcement on the internet and promoting online well being through education to name a few. For more information contact Rachel O'Connell on email: ro-connell@uclan.ac.uk



Every Child Matters: Safeguarding Children in a Digital World 8 February

This Becta event will be a strategy and planning day for Directors of Children Services and senior members of Social Services, Education Services and IT Services.

The outcomes from the event, held at the National Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham, will help local authorities address the challenges of the emerging risks to children in the online and digital environment as part of the 'Every Child Matters' agenda. Becta will also be launching their new publication 'Safeguarding children in a digital world; developing a strategic approach to e-safety' which outlines a national approach to the issue and features new information on CEOP for the education community. Whilst the event has reserved places for an invited audience, additional interested parties are welcome to register at www.becta.org.uk/safeguarding