

Protecting Children & Young People from Online Grooming



During the past 5 years there has been a significant increase in online grooming offences against children and young people. The internet remains a vehicle for offenders to groom, sexually abuse and exploit children and young people, with incidents continuing to rise. Please find below information about CEOP, a National Crime Agency Command dedicated to protecting children from online abuse and bringing exploiters to justice. CEOP provides invaluable support and guidance to police forces nationally, to parents and carers, and other professionals working with children and young people aged 4 – 18.

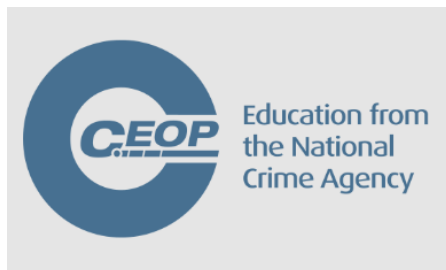
CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection), formerly the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre, is a command of the National Crime Agency (NCA) working with child protection partners across the UK and overseas to protect children from online abuse by identifying the main threats to children and coordinating activity against these threats to bring offenders to account.

- CEOP protects children from harm online and offline, directly through NCA led operations and in partnership with local and international agencies. They have helped thousands of children and young people every year who have experienced online abuse.
- Children and young people can report concerns or worries they have about online sexual abuse or grooming to CEOP. They will be contacted by a specially trained Child Protection Advisor who will listen to their concerns and make decisions jointly with the child where possible. Child Protection Advisors will work with other professionals including police to make sure the child is safeguarded and to identify the person or people responsible.



For further information please go to:

www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/



CEOP Education programme THINKUKNOW provides support and resources to parents and carers, and professionals working directly with children and young people age 4-18 to help them keep themselves safe online and from sexual abuse and exploitation.

- Learning activities, films and other resources have been developed in response to intelligence from child protection experts within the CEOP Command with the aim to help children and young people keep themselves safe from sexual abuse and exploitation by developing skills in identifying and avoiding risk, learning how best to protect themselves and their friends and knowing how to get support and report abuse if they do encounter difficulties.
- The CEOP Education programme is founded on six values to ensure safe, effective and child-centred delivery of online safety education. Professionals using the resources are expected to commit to these values, and ensure that each value is reflected in their own practice:

Safeguarding first - the safety and wellbeing of each child always comes first.

Approach from the perspective of the child - let children start the conversation. Understand what the online world means to them and explore the positive opportunities it presents, as well as the risks.

Promote dialogue and understanding - young people are safest when they feel listened to and understood - and know that they can ask trusted adults for help when they need it.

Empower and enable children - children have the right to be protected from harm, and to be supported to build knowledge, skills and confidence which will help them identify risk and access support when they need it.

Never frighten or scare-monger - alarmist education can be risky and ineffective. Avoid shocking or scaring young people, their families or other professionals.

Challenge victim blaming attitudes - we all have a responsibility to challenge victim-blaming whenever it arises. CEOP Education helps young people understand that abuse is never the fault of those who have been harmed, and builds their confidence to ask a trusted adult for help when they need it.



Welcome to CEOP Education

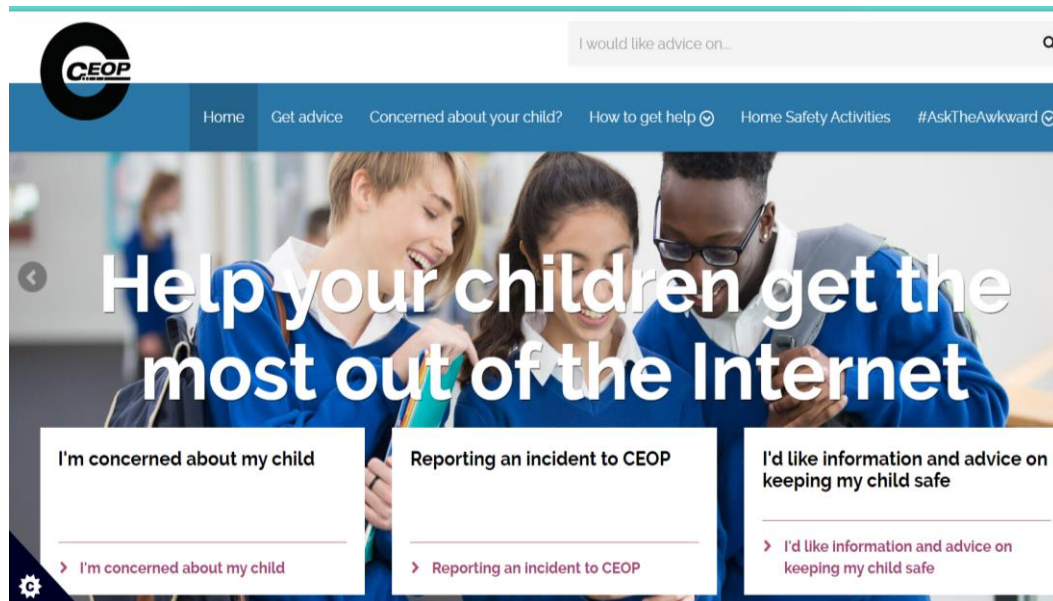
 Education from the National Crime Agency

The National Crime Agency's CEOP Education team aim to help protect children and young people from online child sexual abuse.

We do this through our education programme, providing training, resources and information to professionals working with children, young people and their families.

I am:

 A professional working with children and young people	 A parent or carer	
 4-7 years old	 8-10 years old	 11-18 years old



For further information please go to:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/