



Report to the Education, Skills and Children's Services Select Committee

Title:	E Safety delivery in Children's Centres
Committee date:	29th October 2014
Author:	Ann Winsor
Contact officer:	Ann Winsor

1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of the work of the Buckinghamshire County Council directly managed Children's Centres in relation to raising the awareness of and supporting parents and families in E Safety.

E Safety events were planned, developed and held in a number of the Buckinghamshire County Council run Children's Centres. The area of E Safety is considered one of the priority areas for the Children's Centres as this is a need that has been identified by a number of parents asking questions about keeping their children safe online.

Furthermore, E Safety is now included in the new Ofsted Inspection Framework for Children's Centres. The framework states that inspectors will look at the impact of how "*parents understanding of their responsibilities for their children's safety including e safety*" can be measured and evidenced.

In order to address parents' concerns as well as evidence that the Buckinghamshire County Council Centres are meeting the requirements of the Ofsted guidance, our team are working in partnership with PACEY (Professional Association of Childcare and Early Years, formerly National Childminding Association), Adult Learning and Thames Valley Police all of whom have staff that are CEOP trained to deliver sessions in the Centres for both parents and staff.

2. Events to date

- **Haddenham Children's Centre**

An event was held in November 2013 during the early evening but only staff attended and no parents. Therefore, in May 2014, a further event was held in conjunction with St Mary's Primary School and 5 parents attended.

- **Buckingham Children's Centre**

An event was held on a Saturday morning in November 2013 and 7 parents attended.

- **Elmhurst Children's Centre, Aylesbury**

An event for the Grandparents' Group at the Centre was co-delivered with Adult Learning and Thames Valley Police in June 2014 with 7 attendees.

3. Current Evaluation of Events

In order to demonstrate the impact of the events, Centres used a 'star' style evaluation tool to ascertain how much the parents knew before the event by scoring themselves against a question/comment. Parents were then asked to rescore themselves against the same comments following completion of the event. The evidence collected allows the Centres to begin to measure longer term impact. The comments/questions were:

- *I can keep myself safe online.*
- *I can keep my child safe online.*
- *E Safety is not an issue for me and my family.*
- *I am confident I can set the correct parental controls.*
- *I always supervise my child online.*
- *I am aware that a smart phone needs protecting as well as a PC.*
- *I know the age my child can have a social media account.*
- *I know how to keep my information safe online.*

4. Impact Following the Events

- 100% of parents increased their awareness or knowledge in more than 3 areas.
- 100% of those attending recognised that they had a lot more to learn and understand.

5. Next Steps and Further Development

- Raising awareness in all 10 Centres with the use of the booklet 'Digital Parenting'. These will be linked to informative noticeboards at the Centres where parents and families can access further information and advice.
- E Safety sessions will be planned and delivered in every centre, once needs have been assessed in the reach area.
- Children's Centre staff will be trained to be able to help deliver sessions on E Safety, in partnership and independently, over the next twelve months.
- There will be full evaluations undertaken for all, future sessions, using the 'star' tool, to evidence the impact and identify further needs for families.
- Centres will follow up with parents who want to gain practical knowledge about how to ensure that the equipment they are using is safe for their children.
- Share good practice with other Buckinghamshire Children's Centre Providers.