

COURSE CONTENT OVERVIEW

Online Safety and Harms



This Online Safety and Harms course will inform learners about the harms and risks young people face online, and how they can support children in using the internet safely. The course has been designed for people who work with or look after young children, such as teachers, teaching assistants, childminders, and school support staff.

The course will help you to recognise the importance of online safety, spot the signs which might indicate that a child is experiencing online harm or abuse, know your role in relation to online safety, and understand how to teach online safety effectively.

Module One: Introduction to Online Safety

This introductory module provides learners with an overview of online safety and harms. Learners will consider the benefits of our digital age, the importance of online safety, and the laws to be aware of in relation to online safety and data protection.

- What is online safety?
- The benefits and risks of our digital age
- Why is online safety important?
- Case study
- Children and young people's online habits
- Online safety and the law
- Privacy and data protection
- New online safety laws
- What do schools have to do?

Module Two: Online Risks and Harms: Content

In this module, learners will be given a comprehensive outline of the four Cs of online risk. They will also look more closely at content risks in general, including social networking, gaming, and the dark web.

- Risk factors
- Vulnerabilities
- Gender and sexual identity
- The four Cs of online risk
- Content risks
- Inappropriate or explicit content
- Social networking
- Gaming
- Further content risks
- The dark web

Module Three: Online Risks and Harms: Contact, Conduct, and Commerce

In this module, learners will assess the remaining three Cs of online risk, looking more closely at areas such as radicalisation, online bullying, and grooming. They will also be introduced to a range of case studies related to these areas of risk.

- Contact risks
- Online bullying
- Grooming
- Case study - Breck Bednar
- Radicalisation
- Child sexual exploitation (CSE)
- Child criminal exploitation (CCE): county lines
- Conduct risks
- Commerce risks
- Potential consequences of online harm
- Reporting online harm
- Case studies

Module Four: Your Responsibilities

Here, individual and whole-school responsibilities in relation to online safety are explained. Learners will also look more closely at the policies linked to online safety, as well as how to improve their own online safety. They will end by assessing some school-based scenarios linked to online harms and risks.

- Child protection policies
- Guidance on nudes and semi-nudes
- Online safety policies
- Supporting policies
- The Prevent duty
- Headteacher responsibilities
- Designated Safeguarding Lead responsibilities
- School staff responsibilities
- Disclosures from a child
- Governing body responsibilities
- Further roles and responsibilities
- Your own online safety
- School-based scenarios

Module Five: Teaching Online Safety and Harms

In this final module, learners will acquire the knowledge they will need in order to support children in using the internet safely and confidently. They will consider the guidance set out by the government in relation to the teaching of online safety and harms, and how to plan these lessons for children with additional needs.

- Government guidance
- Curriculum expectations
- Curriculum content - primary
- Curriculum content - secondary
- Delivery of online safety learning
- Planning for children with additional needs
- Online safety teaching resources
- Engaging with parents

Aims of the training

By the end of this course, you will:

- Understand the importance of online safety and the dangers that being online can pose.
- Understand the impact that poor online safety can have on a child or young person, and the most common risks children can face online.
- Be aware of some common vulnerabilities and risk factors associated with online harm.
- Be familiar with signs which might indicate that a child is experiencing online harm or abuse.
- Know your responsibilities within school in relation to online safety.
- Know who to report concerns to, and when further action should be taken.
- Be able to teach online safety and harms to children and young people.