Teeswide eSafety Group

Terms of Reference

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the group is to develop an eSafety strategy for across the Local Safeguarding Children Board's (LSCB) that make up the Tees Valley. These will be underpinned by minimum standards and supporting guidance. The primary focus of the strategy will be to safeguard children in their use of digital technologies, at school, in the home and in the community. In order to do this comprehensively, the strategy will need to establish minimum standards for how the children's workforce and wider members of staff, including volunteers, within schools, libraries and the voluntary sector use digital technology. This will cover the use of computers and computer based technologies in all settings.

Given the rate of change in the electronic environment the strategy, standards and guidance will be reviewed regularly to take into account those developments and any published national guidance.

The strategy, once adopted by the Teeswide LSCB's, will stand as recommended guidance to all organisations across Tees that work with children and young people..

Recommending a model Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

The strategy must ensure that:
- Policies, procedures, protocols and practices support children and young people in accessing and utilising technology safely to aid their enjoyment and achievement;
- All staff / volunteers working with children and families are aware of the acceptable use of computers and technology and receive training on eSafety;
- That eSafety is incorporated into all aspects of work with children and families;
- Organisations increase awareness of eSafety both for themselves and within the community. This will include maximising awareness of existing eSafety resources;

The group will respond to national and local developments and make recommendations to the Boards to ensure that they benefit from the widest based experience and can maintain a Tees Valley approach to this rapidly changing environment

Reporting

The eSafety group will report directly to each LSCB as required. There will be reporting mechanisms in place to the local eSafety groups responsible for the implementation of the strategy, standards and guidance within each Board.

Membership

- Representative ICT officer from each Local Authority
- A LSCB representative from each authority
- Northern Grid
- Police
- Health Commissioning representative

Frequency

Meetings will be quarterly

Confidentiality

Information relating to individuals or specific agencies shared at the group or held within its records is confidential and must be treated as such. Such information must not be shared without the group's / individual **organisation's** consent.

Monitoring & Review

The group will meet approximately 6 weekly for an initial period of six months after which the meeting requirements will be reviewed.

The Chair of the group will report to each of the Teeswide Local Safeguarding Boards as required.

The strategy will be reviewed annually and refreshed / revised as necessary.

Quorate

The group's work will need to be approved by all of the Teeswide Local Safeguarding Children Boards. But where a key decision is made by the group there will need to be representatives from 4 different agencies before the meeting is considered quorate. The group will not be able to meet and progress its work at any one meeting should there be less than 4 agencies represented.

Links

The group's work will need to link with that of the other LSCB groups and subgroups.

Chair

Gary Watson, Business Manager, Middlesbrough

Vice Chair

To be confirmed