

SAFECHOICE

Keeping you up to date with safeguarding news and tips

Jan-Mar 2022

FREE Safeguarding training

Have you signed up for our sector specific safeguarding training? We have introduced new advanced level sessions with sector focused content on safeguarding policies and practices. Book now through the Learning Hub, or contact your Skills Coach for more details.

Talking another language? EMOJI SLANG Do you know what it means?

General

'Ghosted' - to be ignored
 To be shocked
 Idiot/stupid
 'Capping' lying

Violence

'Dead Meat'
 Stab
 Punch
 Gun/Shoot

With most young people having constant access to social media, SMS and instant messaging, a combination of slang words, text jargon, acronyms and emojis provide them with a form of communication that many adults struggle to understand.

Statistics show that the majority of emoji users are aged 24-years and under. Whilst, they may be quick, easy and fun to use, the original meanings of some emojis have been modified and changed, to hide conversations young people don't want us to see.

If you need help in identifying the meaning of some emojis, please see some useful resources below:

Emoji Translate - a great resource which allows you to type in phrases which are then translated into their emoji form.

Emoji Dictionary - an online crowd sourced dictionary providing a good guide to emojis and many of their double meanings.

Suicidal Ideation

Self harm
 Suicide
 Suicide
 Suicide

Drugs

Marijuana
 Heroin, Cocaine, Crystal meth
 Getting high
 Buying drugs/County Lines

Sexual

Male genitalia
 Female genitalia
 Bottom
 Virginity
 'Spicy' risqué behaviour
 Sharing an explicit image
 Shy/Nervous
 Hour glass shape body
 Sexual desire
 Sexual activity

Radicalisation

In November 2021, the threat level of terrorism was raised from substantial to severe.

Radicalisation is the process through which a person comes to support or be involved in extremist ideologies. It can result in a person becoming drawn into terrorism and is in itself a form of harm.

Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. It includes calls for the death of members of the British armed forces (HM Government, 2011).

Challenging and tackling extremism needs to be a shared effort (HM Government, 2013). For this reason, the government has given some types of organisations in England, Scotland and Wales a duty to identify vulnerable children and young people and prevent them from being drawn into terrorism.

All organisation's that work with children and young people have a responsibility to protect children from harm. This includes becoming radicalised and/or being exposed to extreme views.

The process of radicalisation may involve:

- Being groomed online or in person
- Exploitation, including sexual exploitation
- Psychological manipulation
- Exposure to violent material and other inappropriate information
- The risk of physical harm or death through extremist acts

Indicators of radicalisation

If a child or young person is being radicalised their day-to-day behaviour may become increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause. For example, they may:

- Spend increasing amounts of time talking to people with extreme views (this includes online and offline communication)
- Change their style of dress or personal appearance
- Lose interest in friends and activities that are not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause
- Have material or symbols associated with an extreme cause
- Try to recruit others to join the cause

Further information

If you have any questions or concerns related to safeguarding, please contact our 24/7 support line on 0330 0183 531 or email safeguardingreporting@gpstrategies.com. You can also find more information on our website www.gpstl-apprenticeships.co.uk/safeguarding/.

Sharing confidential information

If you wish to share information with GP Strategies staff members, and the staff member feels that what you tell them puts you or any other young person at risk of harm; they will have to pass it on to the designated person who may have to take it further to support you or others and keep everyone safe. Please be assured that they will only tell those who need to know.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding is protection from abuse, maltreatment, maintaining good general health, and mental wellbeing, and most importantly responding to concerns by taking action and reporting any issues. You all have the right to feel safe where you learn and work. Other people **should not** hurt or abuse you in any way or threaten to hurt or abuse you.

Why do we need to safeguard?

We all have a responsibility to ensure the safety, wellbeing and protection of those around us, and during the Covid-19 crisis, there has been additional pressures on families and workers. Abuse can take many different forms and we all have a duty of care that extends to ensure that we understand the signs of abuse, and how we raise concerns.

Be vigilant for the signs of abuse

- Physical injuries
- Changes to eating habits
- Struggling to cope with emotions
- Self-harm
- Changes to social habits
- Changes in mood

What can I do if I'm worried about a child?

If you are worried about a child, you should report this to a senior person onsite, or to your GP Strategies safeguarding contact who will inform the designated lead.

What can I do if I'm worried about an adult?

We have a responsibility to safeguard adults who are care and support needs, are experiencing, or at risk of abuse or neglect and are unable to protect themselves because of their care and support needs. Many of these adults are either cared for by family members, or by residential and nursing care services.

Useful contacts

GP Strategies Safeguarding Support Line

T: 0330 0183 531 (available 24/7)

E: safeguardingreporting@gpstrategies.com

ChildLine

T: 0800 1111 (free) - the ChildLine number won't show up on your phone bill if you call from a landline or from most mobile networks

Action on Elder Abuse

T: 0808 808 8141

Action Fraud (Financial):

T: 0300 123 2040

Mental health useful contacts

Mind Infoline

T: 0300 123 3393 (9am-6pm Mon-Fri) – for confidential mental health information services

Samaritans

T: 116 123 – providing confidential, non-judgemental emotional support

Mental Health Foundation

W: www.mentalhealth.org.uk - offers a range of free guidance and advice

Carers Direct

T: 0203 904 4520

Carers Trust

W: <https://carers.org/help-and-info/carers-services-near-you>

GP Strategies – committed to equality and valuing diversity

