

03

Plan a community event

How to engage children, young people and adults in one go!

Raising the whole community's awareness about e-safety

It's important that everyone knows about the benefits and opportunities of technology, as well as potential issues. Children, young people and adults all need to be informed about e-safety and actively involved in putting it into practice.

Adults need to act as positive role models for online behaviour, yet it can be a real challenge to engage parents and carers.

Community events appeal to all ages and are a great way to bridge the generation gap. Use them to make it interesting and fun for everyone to learn more about technology and e-safety. Events also present your subgroup with exciting opportunities for hands-on involvement.

Anti Bullying Week

Nov 16–20. Organised by the Anti Bullying Alliance, the 2009 theme is cyberbullying. Check out: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Getting started

Rather than create a new e-safety event, look at the diary of safeguarding community events your partners are running. See where it might be possible to integrate some e-safety messages. Or tie in with a national themed event.

Safer Internet Day

Feb 9, 2010. Annual European event organised by Insafe (www.saferinternet.org). Coordinated in the UK by CEOP (Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre).

Child Safety Week

June 21–27, 2010.
Focuses on child safety and prevention. Organised by the Child Accident Prevention Trust: www.childsafetyweek.org.uk

Safeguarding community event

Your date.
Your town.
Your e-safety sub-group's contribution to your LSCB's community event.



Your next steps

Find out what's in the calendar

Are there any safeguarding community events already in your LSCB's calendar? If so, talk to the organisers to see if it's possible to have a stand. Discuss adding in some e-safety messages (including the positive ones!) or an activity that will engage visitors of different ages.

Tie in with a national themed event

Focusing on an annual national (or international) themed event can really help to pull something together locally. Access the resources section on the organiser's website and adapt to your needs. Talk to the regional representative of the organisation or event – they're usually very happy for more people to participate.

Create a talking point

Having something in particular to focus on helps you to get organised and gives your audience something to get to grips with. Not got anything to showcase? Use the event as a platform to launch a campaign, consultation or competition. Some LSCBs have created their own community pledge with positive e-safety messages that local people have signed up to.

Get everyone involved

Give everyone a way of contributing to your event, especially children and young people. They love to create their own messages about what's important to them. Perhaps they could put on a play, do a radio broadcast or design T-shirts for the event?

Celebrate what's been done

Whether it's the results of a consultation or the publication of your strategy, events are ideal for celebrating your subgroup's achievements with everyone, including your local media.

i More ideas in print and online

For more ideas, take a look at the comprehensive Toolkit: *Safeguarding children in a digital world*.

Available to download at:

www.becta.org.uk/publications/safeguardingchildrenlscb

Or log on to the private LSCB Safeguarding online community forum:

<http://collaboration.becta.org.uk/community/safeguarding/lscb>

Need a reminder of log in details? Email Becta.

i What others are doing

Signing the Pledge

Be inspired by Worcestershire's story about putting together a community pledge for Safer Internet Day. Find it in the Documents section of the online forum.

Insafe Update

Learn more about Safer Internet Week by opening up the 'Insafe Update' on the Discussions section of the online forum.

Charitable organisations

Make contact with regional representatives from NSPCC, Anti Bullying Alliance etc to see what events they're holding in your area. Check out Section 7 of the Toolkit for other organisations.

i Any questions? Please contact:

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