



With the majority of children now being schooled from home, it's important that parents and carers are able to help keep children safe both online and in person.

A return to home learning for many children comes with difficulties, but it's vital that adults are aware of the risks of children working online, how to spot the warning signs of abuse in both adults and children, as well as knowing how to start difficult conversations and get help.

#### Learn how to keep children safe

To help families, <u>we've made 12 short films</u> that aim to inform parents, carers and professionals about how and why child sexual abuse happens, how to prevent harm from happening in the first place, and where to get help if something has already happened.

The films cover topics such as 'Understanding child sexual abuse', 'The effects of sexual abuse on children', 'Why children don't tell about abuse' and 'What to do if you suspect





abuse'. There's also information on the warning signs of abuse in both children and adults, and how to make a family safety plan.

You can <u>watch the films</u> on our Parents Protect website now. We'd be grateful if you could share this email with your friends, family and colleagues, and also on social media (see below) so that as many people as possible know what they can do to keep children safe.

### Stop It Now! helpline reaches more people than ever during lockdown

After the first lockdown, we saw a record number of people contact our helpline worried about child sexual abuse and the behaviour of someone they know. We are proud to announce that this lockdown we shall continue to support parents worried about a child or young person's behaviour, as well as adults concerned about themselves and other adults by staying open during this challenging time. Here is why it's important:

v Around 1 in 6 children, under the age of 16, will experience a form of sexual abuse. Many of these children feel unable to tell anyone what has happened to them, as they feel this abuse is their fault or they don't realise that what is happening to them is not normal.

v While most abuse is committed by adults, as much as one third is committed by people under the age of 18.

v Most children who are abused, are abused by people they know, trust and love.

# Talk to us if you're worried about child sexual abuse

Our confidential child sexual abuse prevention <u>helpline</u> (0808 1000 900) is available for anyone with concerns about child sexual abuse. Callers do not need to give identifying information, so can remain anonymous. We speak to thousands of people every year and help them act to protect children and young people from sexual abuse and exploitation.





If you're not ready to speak to someone yet, you can get confidential support through our live chat and secure messaging service.

### Suggested social media posts

#### **Twitter**

Child sexual abuse is difficult to talk about. That's why @StopItNowUK have made some short films to help families understand the risks and help protect children from harm. Check out the films now and please share: <a href="http://bit.ly/3moFlnE">http://bit.ly/3moFlnE</a>

#### **Facebook**

With schools across the UK closed for many students, keeping children safe will be more important than ever. That's why Parents Protect and @StopItNowUKandIreland have made a series of short films to help families understand the risks around child sexual abuse and how to protect children offline and online. To find out more, please visit: <a href="http://bit.ly/3mnvNcn">http://bit.ly/3mnvNcn</a>

#### LinkedIn

Child sexual abuse is difficult to talk about. That's why The Lucy Faithfull Foundation | Stop It Now! UK and Ireland have made some short films to help families understand the risks and help protect children from harm. Check out the films now and please share: <a href="http://bit.ly/3noWCy5">http://bit.ly/3noWCy5</a>

You can share this email and our social media posts:

On Twitter we're @StopItNowUK

On Facebook we're @StopItNowUKandIreland

On LinkedIn we're The Lucy Faithfull Foundation | Stop It Now! UK and Ireland

Please pass on our details to your family and friends, so we can help them keep children safe too. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please get in touch.







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#### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

2 Birch House, Harris Business Park, Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4DJ