



Parish of _____

Risk Assessment: Online communication with young people

Activity: Online communication

Location: Online

Name of leader with responsibility:

Date of first risk assessment: 20/3/20

Time/frequency:

Date to be reviewed: Fortnightly until DATE

Online risk can be classified in three ways:

- **Content risk:** children receiving mass-distributed content. This may expose them to age-inappropriate material such as pornography, extreme violence, or content involving hate speech and radicalisation.
- **Conduct risk:** children participating in an interactive situation. This includes bullying, sexting, harassing, being aggressive or stalking; or promoting harmful behaviour such as self-harm, suicide, pro-anorexia, bulimia, illegal drug use or imitating dangerous behaviour. A child's own conduct online can also make them vulnerable - for example, by over-sharing their personal information or by harassing or bullying themselves.
- **Contact risk:** children being victims of interactive situations. This includes being bullied, harassed or stalked; meeting strangers; threats to privacy, identity and reputation (for example, through embarrassing photos shared without permission, a house location being identified, someone impersonating a user, users sharing information with strangers); and violence, threats and abuse directly aimed at individual users and/or groups of users.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-safety-online-a-practical-guide-for-providers-of-social-media-and-interactive-services/child-safety-online-a-practical-guide-for-providers-of-social-media-and-interactive-services?fbclid=IwAR06nt60AkC-hmtEMDuAxJ1T3VMDpDsncYt INtRs0Rwmuulj3lq6-grfo>

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to manage this risk?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
<i>Risk of unsafe contact between adults and young people eg. grooming</i>	<i>Young people</i>	<p><i>Training: all adults have completed the NSPCC online safety training course</i></p> <p><i>Access: a limited number of adults will have access to the accounts</i></p> <p><i>Checks: all adults have been safely recruited via our policy, including an Enhanced DBS check</i></p> <p><i>Consent: all communication will occur with parental consent</i></p> <p><i>Guidelines: all online communication will occur in compliance with our best practice guidelines</i></p> <p><i>Code of conduct: adults sign an online code of conduct</i></p>	<p><i>Maintain an up to date register of all online communication</i></p> <p><i>NAME to regularly review all online communication logs</i></p>			
<i>Risk of miscommunication eg. when communicating in written form, the meaning may be unclear</i>	<p><i>Young people</i></p> <p><i>Adult leaders</i></p>	<p><i>Guidelines and training: this risk is addressed in our training and best practice guidelines</i></p> <p><i>Adult leaders are informed of the risk and given examples of how to avoid it</i></p>	<i>NAME to regularly review online communication</i>			

Risk of young people contacting adults on their private profiles	Young people Adult leaders	Guidelines and training: adult leaders informed of the risk and given examples of how to avoid it. Code of conduct: adult leaders sign a code of conduct agreeing not to allow contact via personal accounts Adults required to implement adequate privacy settings on all profiles	Adults to notify NAME if any contact occurs and log it in the safeguarding register			
Risk of cyberbullying or inappropriate content being shared	young people adult leaders	Guidelines and training: adult leaders informed of the risk and given examples of how to avoid it Code of conduct: adult leaders sign a code of conduct Youth code of conduct: young people to agree to an online code of conduct Young people to be reminded of the code of conduct at the beginning of communications All adults to be up to date with their safeguarding training	NAME to regularly review accounts Any concerns to be immediately logged with safeguarding officer and acted upon appropriately			
Risk of contact information being shared publicly	Young people Adult leaders	Guidelines and training: adult leaders informed of risk and given examples of how to avoid it	NAME to be responsible for monitoring training NAME to be informed as GDPR officer			

		Information to be stored in Thrive Huntingdon Google Drive with limited access Code of conduct to be shared with young people				
Risk of young people being harmed when participating in remote activities eg. milkshake challenge at home	Young people Adult leaders	Verbal risk assessment: inform young people of risks at beginning of instructions Written guidance: post guidelines in public forums Inform parents: make the schedule of activities public and inform parents of risks	Activity leader to complete risk assessment for each activity Activities to be logged and reviewed by team leader			
Risk of home working: sensitive information being heard by others,	Young people Adults	Code of conduct: adults to sign code of conduct, including guidance for home working Use earphones where possible Verbally remind young people of risk	Team leader to contact leaders at least once a week for pastoral catch up			
Risk of overworking eg. young people contacting out of hours	Adults	Guidelines and code of conduct: adults trained and supported with appropriate boundaries Team leader to check in regularly to support staff	Team leader to provide pastoral support regularly			