



SHOWCASE
TRAINING

Newsletter

Welcome

Welcome to January's edition of the Showcase Newsletter! The purpose of this newsletter is provide our readers with up to date news articles and stories to widen their understanding of the world around them. Additionally, it will provide key updates in legislation and insight in to Government policies.

We hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and find it interesting and informative!

Message From The Editor

Thank you for joining us for another edition of the Showcase newsletter, the first one of 2024! Navigating through the 'January Blues' can be challenging, but you've successfully surpassed the toughest phase. If you haven't quite reached all your New Year's resolutions, don't fret – there's still plenty of time and opportunities ahead.

Coming up in February is National Apprenticeship Week! National Apprenticeship Week takes place from the 5th - 11th February 2024 and celebrates the invaluable contributions of apprenticeships to both individuals and industries. Throughout the week, we will be spotlighting the journeys of our apprentices, sharing success stories, and shedding light on the amazing opportunities that apprenticeships offer. Don't forget to check out our social media channels to catch all the content!

Happy reading!


Inside this issue:


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- Extremism and Radicalisation
- Equality and Diversity
- Mental Health
- Functional Skills Maths Quiz
- Upcoming Events


Congratulations to the following learners:

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Safeguarding



Over 90% of child sexual abuse imagery is self-generated, data shows

According to the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), more than 90% of child sexual abuse images online is self-generated. Self-generated child sexual abuse material, featuring children under 10-years-old, was found on more than 100,000 websites over the past year. Self-generated child abuse material refers to sexual images that are taken by a person of themselves. This could be through a webcam or a hand-held device. Children may be groomed, deceived or extorted into producing and sharing a sexual image or video of themselves.

Some of the images featured children as young as 3-years-old and more than a fifth were ranked as category A abuse (the most severe type). This is a rise of 66% on the year before. It is important to note that the reason for this rise may be due to better detection. Susie Hargreaves, the IWF's chief executive, claimed how children have been tricked, coerced or encouraged into engaging in sexual activity. This is then recorded and shared by child sexual abuse websites. With the Government's recent plans to roll out of end-to-end encryption on Facebook Messenger, there are concerns that this will have a "catastrophic" effect on law enforcement's ability to bring perpetrators to justice.

Read more here: <https://www.iwf.org.uk/news-media/news/under-10s-groomed-online-like-never-before-as-hotline-discovers-record-amount-of-child-sexual-abuse/>

Children now 'biggest perpetrators of sexual abuse against children'

According to the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), 52% of alleged offenders in England and Wales are aged 17 or under, suggesting that children are now the biggest perpetrators of sexual abuse against other children. 107,000 reports were made to police in 2022 alleging sexual offences against children, with the vast majority being boys. This included rape, as well as the making and sharing of indecent images.

Ian Critchley, the NPCC lead for child protection, said: "This is predominantly a gender-based crime of boys committing offences against girls". He explained how this issue is "exacerbated by the accessibility of violent pornography and the ease with which violent pornography is accessible to boys". The NSPCC recently announced that it was increasing the capacity of its helpline through which adults can report suspicions about child abuse.

Read more here: <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2024/jan/10/children-now-biggest-perpetrators-of-sexual-abuse-against-children>



Local Safeguarding News

Gosport Police Investigation

Police officers are investigating a reported kidnapping and road traffic incident in Gosport on Saturday 6th January. These two incidents are suspected to be linked.

At 11:04 pm, the Police received a report of a collision involving two vehicles. The information indicated that a white Ford Focus collided with a building, while a black BMW collided with two pedestrians on Village Road. Both victims were taken to the hospital for treatment and are in non-life-threatening condition. Two individuals, believed to be teenagers, exited the Ford Focus and fled in the direction of Western Way.

Around the same time, the police were informed that a short while before, a man had been forcibly placed into a white vehicle on Ferrol Road. The vehicle was observed leaving the area and seemed to be pursued by a black car.

As part of the ongoing inquiry, a 26-year-old man from Gosport has been arrested on suspicion of kidnap and causing injury by careless/inconsiderate driving, a 20-year-old man from Gosport on suspicion of conspiring to kidnap and causing injury by dangerous driving, and a 54-year-old man from Gosport on suspicion of conspiring to kidnap, causing injury by dangerous driving, and driving a vehicle while unfit through drugs.

Read more here:

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/news/hampshire/news/appeals/2024/january/police>

Two men jailed for running a 'county line' drugs gang operating between Harlesden and Portsmouth

Two men were sentenced for a combined total of 6 years and 8 months at Portsmouth Crown Court on the 12th January for their part in a 'county line' drugs gang operating between Harlesden and Portsmouth.

County lines refers to the practice where drug gangs from major cities establish networks in regional areas, employing vulnerable individuals and children to transport, store, and sell drugs, with the communication conducted through a dedicated phone line.

The police are encouraging individuals to spot the signs that someone might be involved in drugs supply, and to report any suspicious activity to 101 or the the Hampshire Constabulary website.

Read more here: <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/news/hampshire/news/news/2024/>

Some of the signs to look out for and consider include:

1. Do you know someone who is always going missing from school or their home?
2. Are they travelling alone to places far away from home?
3. Do they suddenly have lots of money/lots of new clothes/new mobile phones?
4. Are they receiving much more calls or texts than usual?
5. Are they hanging out with someone/people that are older and controlling?
6. Do they have unexplained injuries?
7. Do they seem very reserved or seem like they have something to hide?
8. Do they seem scared?
9. Are they self-harming?

Local Safeguarding Teams:

Portsmouth

Children: 0845 671 0271

Adults: 02392 688 613

Southampton

Children: 02380 833 336

Adults: 02380 833 003

Isle of Wight

Children: 01983 814 545

Adults: 01983 814 980

Hampshire

Children: 0300 555 1384

Adults: 0300 555 1386

Wiltshire

MASH Hub: 0300 456 0108

Dorset

Children: 01305 228866

Adults: 01305 221016

Berkshire

01635 503090

Showcase Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO):

Ellen Roberts
07715 658036

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Extremism and Radicalisation

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is an annual event that takes place on the 6th of February each year, aiming to promote a safer and more positive online experience for all, especially young people. It's a day to raise awareness about online safety issues and to encourage everyone to play a role in creating a safer internet.

Since the Israel– Hamas Conflict, there has been a significant increase in hateful social media content according to the UK's Counter Terrorism Internet Referral Unit. The internet is a breeding ground for spreading extremist ideologies, and many groups and individuals use online platforms to spread their messages, recruit followers, and incite violence. This is particularly concerning for young people who may be more vulnerable to manipulation and persuasion.

Safer Internet Day is a day to raise awareness and to work together to create a safer and more positive online environment. If you do see any harmful content, it is important that you report it in order to prevent it from spreading.

Here are some additional resources that you may find helpful:

The UK Safer Internet Centre: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>
Educate Against Hate: <https://www.educateagainsthate.com/>

Key Contacts

Regional Prevent Coordinators:

Salam Katbi (South-West): 07824 083307
Alamgir Sheriyar (South-East): 07468 714372

Anti-Terrorism Hotline:

0800 789 321
Crime Stoppers:
0800 555 111
See It. Say It. Sorted.
0800 40 50 40 or
Text 61016
<https://actearly.uk/>

If in doubt, dial 101 or 999



Rise in young people exposed to online radicalisation following Hamas attack

Since the Hamas attack on Israel on October 7th, the UK's Counter Terrorism Internet Referral Unit has seen an unprecedented 12-fold increase in hateful social media content being reported. More than 2,700 referrals have been received since the attack, with a significant rise in antisemitic content posted by young people. Additionally, there has been a shift in focus from ISIS propaganda to antisemitic and pro-Hamas posts.

Matt Jukes, head of Counter Terror Policing, expressed concern over social media companies' failure to address the overall climate of hate created by algorithms. Algorithms serve as recommendation systems, suggesting new content to users based on their interactions with posts. This can potentially lead individuals towards more extreme ideas related to topics they've shown interest in, exposing them to perspectives they might not have encountered otherwise.

Read more here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-67884785>

TestFiltering.com

TestFiltering.com is an online tool used to check whether your internet connection is blocking certain types of harmful or illegal content. It works by attempting to access test webpages containing examples of such content, including Child sexual abuse material and terrorist related content.

Access the website here: <http://testfiltering.com/>

Equality and Diversity



LGBT History Month

In February each year, the UK celebrates LGBT History Month, commemorating the history of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and non-binary individuals. This yearly event, initiated in 2005, serves as a chance to educate others about the progression of LGBT+ rights and civil rights movements. It is an opportunity to raise awareness of the challenges that the LGBTQ+ community has faced, and to promote understanding and equality for all.

Here is a brief overview of key milestones and events in the history of the LGBT community in the UK:

1. **Decriminalisation of Homosexuality (1967):** The Sexual Offences Act of 1967 partially decriminalised homosexuality in England and Wales for men aged 21 and above in private.
2. **LGBT Rights Activism (1970s):** The 1970s saw the emergence of organised LGBT rights activism. This decade also saw the first UK Gay Pride march.
3. **Section 28 (1988):** The controversial Section 28 was introduced as part of the Local Government Act in 1988. It prohibited the promotion of homosexuality in schools. It was eventually repealed in the UK in 2003.
4. **Civil Partnership Act (2004):** The Civil Partnership Act allowed same-sex couples in the UK to register their partnerships, providing legal recognition and some rights.
5. **Legalisation of Same-Sex Marriage (2014):** The Marriage (Same-Sex Couples) Act 2013 legalised same-sex marriage in England and Wales, with the first same-sex marriages taking place in 2014.
6. **Gender Recognition Act (2004) and Reforms (2020):** The Gender Recognition Act of 2004 allowed transgender individuals to obtain legal recognition of their acquired gender. In 2020, there were calls for reforms to simplify the process of legal gender recognition.

Over the years, there has been increased visibility of LGBT individuals in various aspects of public life, including politics, media, and entertainment. While progress has been made, challenges and discrimination still persist, and ongoing efforts are needed to ensure full equality and acceptance for the LGBT community in the UK.

Barbie and the Oscars

The film everyone was talking about in 2023, Barbie, is up for eight nominations at this year's Oscars, including Best Picture, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Costume Design, Best Production Design, and two for Best Original Song. However, controversy was sparked after Greta Gerwig, Director of the film, and Margot Robbie, who plays the lead role, did not receive individual nominations. This was seen as a missed opportunity to recognise female talent and leadership in a film which celebrates female empowerment. Ryan Gosling, who was nominated for Best Supporting Actor for his role as Ken, released a statement which said "To say that I'm disappointed that they are not nominated in their respective categories would be an understatement. No recognition would be possible for anyone on the film without their talent, grit and genius."

Read more here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-68077563>

Mental Health

UK risks being 'burnt-out nation' due to poor mental health, charity says

The charity, Mental Health UK, has expressed concerns about the United Kingdom potentially becoming a "burnt-out nation" due to a significant number of individuals taking time off work for poor mental health. The charity claimed that this may be due to global challenges, including climate change and artificial intelligence, contributing to heightened "feelings of hopelessness."

A recent YouGov survey of 2,060 adults, highlighted that 35% experienced high or extreme workplace pressure in the past year, leading to 20% needing time off due to stress-related mental health issues. Brian Dow, the CEO of Mental Health UK, emphasised the complexity of the problem and urged the government to intervene, calling for a "national conversation" on the matter. In response, the government are investing £2.3bn in mental health services and efforts to address the connection between work and mental well-being through a back-to-work plan. However, the survey also revealed that 35% of individuals were uncomfortable expressing concerns about stress to managers, while 31% cited bullying or intimidation by colleagues as a cause of stress in the past year.

Read more here: <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2024/jan/22/mental-health-uk-burnt-out-nation>

Showcase Mental
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Time To Talk Day

"Time to Talk Day" will take place on the 1st February and is run by Mind and Rethink Mental Illness. This day aims to change the way people think and act about mental health problems, and encourage open conversations about mental health to help reduce the stigma associated with it. Its primary goal is to get people talking about mental health, whether it's with friends, family, or colleagues.

Talking about our own mental health isn't always easy, and therefore, this initiative encourages everyone to take part in conversations, whether it's over a cup of tea, during a walk, or in the workplace. By fostering a supportive environment, Time to Talk Day aims to promote understanding and empathy surrounding mental health issues. Encouraging discussions and providing support can make a positive impact on individuals dealing with mental health challenges and empower them to seek help.

Take a look at their website here: <https://timetotalkday.co.uk/>

There are many ways you can get involved in Time to Talk Day

1. **Start a conversation with someone you care about:** Ask them how they're doing, listen without judgment, and offer support if needed.
2. **Share your own story:** Sharing your personal experiences with mental health can help others feel less alone and encourage them to seek help.
3. **Organise an event:** Host a workshop, a film screening, or another event to raise awareness about mental health in your community.
4. **Support mental health organisations:** Donate to a mental health charity or volunteer your time to support people living with mental illness.



Functional Skills Maths Quiz

1. Which is largest?

- A) 15% of £80
- B) 80% of £15
- C) 30% of £40
- D) They are all the same

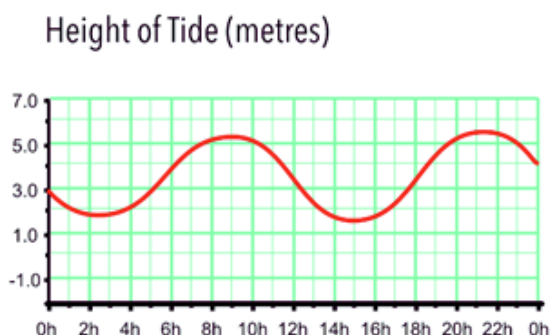
2. Each month, Toyz Rule soft play carry out a quality check on the toys available for children to play with. In Last month's toy quality check, a quarter of toys checked were deemed unsafe for children to use. This month, it was just 1 in ten. By how much did the failure rate decrease?

3. Europe's population is about seven hundred and forty million. How would you write this number in figures?

- A) 740 000 000
- B) 740 000 00
- C) 74 000 000 000
- D) 7.400 0000

4. The graph shows the height of the tide over a 24-hour period. What is the time of the second low tide of the day?

- A) 21:30
- B) 09:00
- C) 02:30
- D) 15:00



Answers: 1 = D, 2 = 15%, 3 = A, 4 = D

Upcoming Events

LGBT+ History Month

1st February - Time to Talk Day

4th February - World Cancer Day

5th to 11th February - National Apprenticeship Week

5th February to 11th February – Race Equality Week

6th February - Safer Internet Day

10th February - Lunar New Year (Year of the Dragon)

13th February - Pancake Day

13th February - Mardi Gras

14th February - Valentine's Day

17th February - Random Acts of Kindness Day

22nd February - World Thinking Day

25th February - 2nd March - Eating Disorder Awareness Week

FEBRUARY 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	1	2