

# #LookCloser

## Programme of Learning February - March 2024

We're delighted to invite you to join us for our latest #LookCloser programme of learning. We have developed our sessions based on learning from The Children's Society and wider partners to tackle the issues of child exploitation and abuse.

All sessions are free of charge and delivered on Microsoft Teams Live which means:

- Interaction with the presenters and participants will be limited
- There will however, be a Q&A function
- We will use tools such as Menti to provide opportunities for engagement and discussion.

The timetable below has links to each learning event on Ticket Tailor, where you can book on to as few or as many events as you please. All of our sessions have been designed for various professional audiences, so please share these events with anyone you think would benefit from attending.

Learning sessions for April 2024 will be confirmed soon, so please check our webpage [here](#) for the most up to date information.

If you have any questions about our learning events, please contact [prevention@childrensociety.org.uk](mailto:prevention@childrensociety.org.uk)

Date	Session	Time
Monday 5 February 2024	<u>The Digital Lives of Children and Young People</u>	14:00 - 15:30
Thursday 15 February 2024	<u>Preventing and Disrupting Child Exploitation within the Night Time Economy</u>	10:00 - 11:30
Thursday 28 March	Safeguarding Transgender Young People from Exploitation*	TBC

\* Please note timings for this sessions are still being confirmed, but will be available to book on our #LookCloser webpage in coming weeks.

# Session Descriptions

## The Digital Lives of Children and Young People

Young people's lives span the physical and digital worlds, with each of these as real as the other. Innovations in technology bring great opportunities but they also facilitate new ways for perpetrators to access and exploit children and to keep their activities hidden.

In this session we aim to share our learning and increase awareness of some of these new and emerging online exploitation concerns with a particular focus on the Financial Exploitation of children and young people and Sexually Coerced Extortion (often known as sextortion).

This session is aimed at professionals working at protecting children from exploitation and will aim to:

- Explore how to best engage with young people regarding their digital lives and through doing so better protect them from harm.
- Consider current and emerging online exploitation concerns, with a particular focus on financial exploitation and sexually coerced extortion.
- Discuss recent developments in online safety including the Online Safety Act and End to End Encryption and how these impact safeguarding young people from exploitation.
- Build understanding of the risks to children and young people online, including the dark web and gaming.
- Create space to share new and emerging online exploitation issues

## Preventing and Disrupting Exploitation within the Night Time Economy

We all work hard to keep the children and young people we support safe in our care, but how much do we really consider the broader places and spaces in which they might be spending time?

This session, covering the 'Night Time Economy' will enable professionals to consider some of the key

locations where exploitation takes place and how we can engage with businesses in these to better prevent and disrupt exploitation. Within the session we will focus in particular on exploitation risks within fast food outlets, taxis and private hire vehicles and hotels and accommodation sites, as well as touching on other spaces where young people may spend their time, such as in retail outlets. We will update attendees around current national efforts to address these issues, such as Operation Makesafe and will explore how our #LookCloser campaign itself can play a role.

This session aims to:

- Discuss the benefits of recognising businesses as partners in safeguarding young people and how best to engage them.
- Examine the benefits and limitations of training approaches when supporting the private sector to better protect children and young people.
- Explore contextual safeguarding activities as a complimentary approach.
- Discuss the importance of location-based disruption in tackling businesses who are complicit or actively involved in child exploitation and abuse.
- Evidence best practice through learning from real life case studies

## Learning Session Information

These sessions are aimed at upskilling professionals in the topic area and identifying points of reflection for individuals own practice and to take back to their wider teams and networks. The audience is expected to be varied and therefore the session has been written to engage professionals at different levels of knowledge and seniority and across a range of setting and sectors.

You may want to read some of our resources prior to attending our sessions in order to get the most out of these, but this is not a requirement.

Sessions will demonstrate The Children's Society's commitment to equity and inclusion and in particular anti-racism and trans allyship. We will therefore not tolerate any behaviour which the presenters deem hateful, racism, transphobic or discriminatory in any other way.