

Amplifying Child Safety Online Project (2025-26)

Digital Safety Ambassador Information Sheet

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

The Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) is currently recruiting additional working group members - aka Digital Safety Ambassadors (DSAs) - for a youth-led project that will run through March 2026 with the goal of amplifying young people's views and experiences to improve child safety online in Scotland. This project is in partnership with the NSPCC, who is also working with partner organisations in Wales and Northern Ireland to help foster nation-specific impact across the UK.

Selected young people will be vital to the final 9 months of project work, ensuring that decisions made to reduce online harms and abuse targeting children and young people in Scotland directly consider actual young peoples' experiences and opinions. In this light, DSAs are at the centre of all project decisions and actions, and will be supported to carry out project planning, delivery and evaluation.

Furthermore, to ensure we hear from young people throughout Scotland, this project has incorporated six regional voice groups from different geographic regions of Scotland. Current DSAs have already led a round of insight-gathering workshops with regional groups, and new DSAs will have an opportunity to facilitate the second round of workshops this Autumn with the same groups to:

- 1) Co-design campaign materials and resources responding to the key online safety issues regional groups identified in the spring workshops.
- 2) Continue to support young people's development, building their confidence, communications skills, and creativity.

By the close of this project, newly recruited DSAs will have developed skills in organisation, planning, facilitation, communication, and teamwork, driving real change at a national - and UK-wide - level to protect children and young people's right to be safe online.

Some of the topics that may be discussed throughout the duration of this project are sensitive, and as a project team we will follow robust safeguarding procedures aligned with SYP and the NSPCC's policies.

The four topics that regional groups will be co-designing resources around include:

- 1. Cyberbullying
- 2. Social media and self-image
- 3. Misinformation and Al
- 4. Sexual content and consent

HOW CAN YOUNG PEOPLE GET INVOLVED?

SYP is currently recruiting up to 5 additional young people for our project working group, to join the 10 existing Digital Safety Ambassadors.

Key activities include:

- Receiving relevant training to upskill in areas such as planning, workshop facilitation, child protection, policy influencing, evaluation, and communication.
- Designing and leading in-person sessions to support regional voice group members in creating resources to improve child safety online in Scotland.
- Creating pathways to amplify the impact of child online safety resources and tools developed with regional groups, through meeting with Scottish decision-makers and implementing a communications plan.

WHEN WILL THE WORKING GROUP MEET?

Following an online induction session on **Monday July 21**st **from 5:30-6:30pm**, there will be monthly working group meetings and quarterly cross-nations meetings with the NSPCC's partner organisations in Northern Ireland and Wales as well as the <u>Voice of Online Youth</u> group. There will also be in-person working days at key points in the project timeline for members to receive extra training and support. Finally, members will have the opportunity to attend in-person regional voice group workshops in September and October 2025.

Key Dates (all activities marked with a star are mandatory):

Activity	Date(s)
Online induction meeting*	• Monday 21st July 2025, 5:30-6:30pm
Online stakeholder showcase*	Wednesday 26 th November 2025, 5:30-7pm
In-person working group	Thursday 31st July 2025, 10am-4pm (in Glasgow)
meetings*	• Saturday 21st February 2026, 10am-4pm (loc. TBD)
Online working group	Wednesday 27 th August 2025, 5:30-7pm
meetings	Wednesday 1st October 2025, 5:30-7pm
(later dates subject to	Tuesday 4 th November 2025, 5:30-7pm
change based on young	Monday 8 th December 2025, 5-7pm (regional drop-
peoples' availability)	in session from 6-7pm)
	• Tuesday 13 th January 2026, 5:30-6:30pm
	• Wednesday 18 th March 2026, 5:30-6:30pm

	 Tuesday 24th March 2026, 5:30-6:30pm (final presentation to NSPCC) Monday 30th March 2026, 5:30-6:30pm (final presentation to regional groups)
Online cross-nations meetings with NSPCC partner organisations	 Wednesday 24th September 2025 (1 hour, TBD) Wednesday 28th January 2026 (1.5 hours, TBD)

HOW WILL WORKING GROUP MEMBERS BE SELECTED?

Any young person living in Scotland aged 14-18** years-old can apply to take part in this opportunity by filling in the online <u>Application Form</u> and emailing their completed Consent Form to Lucie Paradis, Participation and Programmes Officer (lucie.p@syp.org.uk), before midday on Wednesday, 16th July 2025.

You will be asked to share via a written or video response why you are interested in joining SYP's child safety online project working group, as well as what you believe to be the key issues in Scotland today regarding keeping children and young people safe online.

Working group members will be selected by SYP staff, with input from SYP Board Members who advise on the strategy of SYP's Participation and Programmes work. If you are an MSYP, the selection group will be giving priority to young people who are not already involved in another SYP project, to create space for new voices in our project work.

Additionally, as we want this group to be as diverse as possible to represent the varied viewpoints of young people in Scotland, we especially encourage young people from seldom heard groups to apply. This includes:

- Young people of colour
- LGBTQ+ young people
- Young men/boys
- Young carers

- Young people with care experience
- Young people with a disability
- Young people from rural/island areas

** In line with SYP's child protection policy, young people under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or other adult when travelling to in-person activities. SYP will cover the travel costs and accommodation for this adult. The adult does not need to attend the event.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Lucie Paradis, SYP Participation and Programmes Officer (lucie.p@syp.org.uk).