

## **News release**

7 February 2011

### **Glasgow children to learn about staying safe online**

For the second year running the Information Commissioner's Office has joined forces with the international initiative '*The i in online*' to teach young people about the importance of looking after their personal information while surfing the internet.

The ICO is hosting an event for young people from Cleveden Secondary School in Glasgow later today. The event follows similar workshops at schools in Cardiff and Belfast as well as the ICO's head offices in Wilmslow, Cheshire.

Young people are particularly vulnerable to the dangers the internet can present, especially as many are posting personal information on social networking sites. They are often unaware of the true value of the information they are providing and how it could be used. Today's workshop in Glasgow will focus on giving young people a better understanding of the need to keep their information secure including the need to check privacy settings to block strangers accessing their information without their knowledge.

Head Teacher at Cleveden Secondary School, Mrs Kay Duffus, said: "The internet presents fantastic opportunities for our young people and today's '*The i in online*' workshop will help our pupils understand the importance of keeping their information secure when using the internet to work, learn and play."

Ken Macdonald, Assistant Commissioner for Scotland at the ICO said:

“Today’s activities are about ensuring that young people are equipped to make informed choices when surfing online. Most young people are extremely savvy when it comes to using the internet for a wide range of social activities – however, they need to be aware of the risks and the steps they should take to make sure they’re surfing safely.

“We are pleased to be involved in ‘*The i in online*’ initiative for the second year running and hope the young people visiting our offices will have an enjoyable and informative workshop.”

‘*The i in online*’ was spearheaded by law firm Speechly Bircham and provides primary and secondary schools across the UK with free interactive training sessions developed for staff, parents and children to provide advice on how best to manage online privacy. ‘*The i in online*’ is supported by many leading media organisations and household names including Sky; The Walt Disney Company UK; Channel 4; Facebook; Warner Brothers; Turner Broadcasting Barclays and Nickelodeon are supporting the initiative.

## **ENDS**

If you need more information, please contact the ICO press office on 0303 123 9070 or visit the website at: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

### **Notes to Editors**

1. The Information Commissioner’s Office upholds information rights in the public interest, promoting openness by public bodies and data privacy for individuals.
2. The ICO regulates the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. In Scotland, freedom of information is a devolved matter and Scottish public authorities are subject to the Freedom of

Information (Scotland) Act 2002 which is regulated by the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner in St Andrews.

3. For more information about the Information Commissioner's Office subscribe to our e-newsletter at [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk). Alternatively, you can find us on [Twitter](#) and [Linkedin](#).
4. Anyone who processes personal information must comply with eight principles of the Data Protection Act, which make sure that personal information is:
  - Fairly and lawfully processed
  - Processed for limited purposes
  - Adequate, relevant and not excessive
  - Accurate and up to date
  - Not kept for longer than is necessary
  - Processed in line with your rights
  - Secure
  - Not transferred to other countries without adequate protection