



Safeguarding Newsletter – July 2019

“Deets and Squares” Social Media Scam

Parents should be aware of a money-laundering scam online, where fraudsters are encouraging young people to accept money into their bank account. Money is then transferred into another person's account or withdrawn and handed over in cash in exchange for a cut of the money.

Top tips to support parents:

1. Check your child's bank statements regularly with them ensuring every transaction can be accounted for.
2. Make sure they know not to give anyone their PIN, passcode or password, even to someone claiming to be from their bank or the police.
3. If a child comes home with new clothes, trainers or any other items that cannot be accounted for, ask them how they got the money to purchase them.
4. Explain that allowing someone to use their bank details, regardless of how attractive or plausible the offer may seem, is a serious criminal offence and could damage their financial future.
5. Teach them the simple rule that if it looks too good to be true, then it probably is.

Parental advice for 'Discord' App



Discord is a voice and text app and site, designed for gamers. It allows you to voice and text chat across different platforms. Users can only message each other if they have accepted their follow request.

The minimum age according to Discord is 13+. The website 'net-aware' has asked parents and children what they think about this new app and the risks involved.

7% of children thought the app was unsafe and the key things they highlighted were:

- Different servers have different rules – some of these allow inappropriate content or behaviour.
- You can have contact and communication from people you don't know, especially on public or large servers.
- Some people can be rude, mean or sexual.
- There are lots of ways to communicate – groups, servers, direct messages, voice channels or calls.

To read more about the app discord, please [click here](#).

Online Grooming

Grooming is when someone builds an online relationship with a young person and tricks them or pressures them into doing something sexual. There are 4 stages to the grooming process:

Targeting stage:

- Locations
- Observation of child/young person
- Selection through technology
- Befriending – showing interest, giving compliments
- Gaining trust

Friendship forming stage:

- Making child/young person feel special, listening to them
- Spending time together
- Keeping secrets
- Being there for them
- Pushing physical contact boundaries

Loving relationship stage:

- Being their boyfriend/girlfriend
- Enter into a sexual relationship
- Engaging them in illegal/adult activities
- Building up hope and then punishing them

Abusive relationship stage:

- Withdrawal of affection and friendship
- Reinforce dependency on them
- Isolate victim
- Coercion and manipulation
- Threatening behaviour
- Sexual behaviour
- Making them have sex with other people
- Supply them with drugs
- Playing on the child/young person feelings of guilt, shame and fear.

If you have concerns about a child or young person who is at risk of, or being groomed online, please report it immediately.

USEFUL CONTACTS:

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) is dedicated to eradicating child sexual exploitation and is part of UK policing – <http://ceop.police.uk>

ThinkUKnow is a website maintained by CEOP and gives advice to children, young people, parents and teachers on internet safety – www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Pace works with parents to enable them to safeguard and stop their children from being sexually exploited. www.paceuk.info

Internet Matters – www.internetmatters.org

IWF – www.iwf.org.uk



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Snapchat guide for parents



Snapchat is very popular with children and young people. The app has a minimum age limit of 13+ and allows users to send short videos or messages to their contacts. The 'snap' appears on screen for up to 10 seconds before disappearing, or there is an option to have no time limit. There's also a feature called Snapchat Story that lets you share snaps in a sequence for up to 24 hours.

14% of the children and young people who reviewed Snapchat thought it was unsafe. The main things they told us they don't like about Snapchat were:

- It shares your location if you don't use 'ghost mode'
- People can screen shot images you share
- Getting messages or request for sexual images from people you don't know
- It can be used for bullying

Snapchat is classified as high risk for sexual and bullying content – read more on net-aware [here](#).

Who to contact?

If you would like to contact outside agencies for advice, help or guidance, please contact one of the numbers below:

First Contact Team (Social Care):
01702 215007 (Mon-Fri)

Out of Hours Team (Social Care):
08456061212 (365 days)

NSPCC Helpline: 0800 800 5000

Childline: 0800 1111

Police:
999 (Emergency) or 101 (Non-Emergency)

Belfairs Designated Safeguarding Leads:



Mrs Foster
Asst. Principal



Mr Zweistra
Vice Principal



Mr Evans
Asst. Principal



Mrs Morenas
Asst. Principal

Government Advice for Online Safety

Following recent advice from the Department of Education, they are now urging schools to understand the importance ensuring students are receiving a "fully rounded education with regard to online safety". This isn't a change to the curriculum but more a round-up of suggestions for teaching online safety, that better fits into the new relationships, sex and health education. The key areas that have been identified are:

1. **Spotting Fake News** – students should be taught how to evaluate what they see online so that they do not automatically assume what they see is acceptable or true.
2. **Learning about 'Social Media Influencers'** – students should be warned about the potential harm of comparisons to unrealistic online images. Lessons on this could include look at the use of filter enhancement and exploring the roles of social media influencers.
3. **Dangers of online challenges** – the guidance states that whilst some may be fun and harmless, others are highly dangerous or illegal. Children should be aware that it is "ok to say say no" and understand the importance of informing an adult about challenges which include threats or secrecy.
4. **How to limit personal data 'harvesting'** – the guidance points to online platforms and search engines such as 'harvesting' or 'farming'. Children can protect themselves if something goes wrong and should be aware of the rights they have to their own data and how to limit what is collected.
5. **That porn is not an 'accurate portrayal' of sexual relationships** – students should know that pornography presents a "distorted picture of sexual behaviours". Lessons could include how watching porn can lead to "skewed beliefs about sex" and in some cases "normalise violent behaviour.
6. **Risks of live streaming** – Children and young people should be aware of the potential for others to record live streams without the user knowing, online behaviours should mirror how you behave offline.
7. **How 'online emotions' can result in 'mob mentality'** Children need to be aware of how to recognise acceptable behaviour online by looking at why people behave differently and considering unacceptable online behaviours often passed off as "banter".
8. **Knowing the different types of grooming** – Children and young people should be able to identify the different types of grooming and the motivations behind them.