

February 2023

WPS Parents' Safeguarding Newsletter

Parent Webinar - Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) and Gang Exploitation

Thank you to everyone who joined onto this webinar organised by PACE UK / Barnardos.

The webinar was designed for parents to raise their awareness around the risks of CCE and gang exploitation. The feedback from those who attended was very positive.

If you have any suggestions of any other areas you would like further information on please do not hesitate to e-mail your suggestions to j.page@wootonparkschool.org.uk.

Roblox

A number of our learners, in both the primary and secondary, enjoy playing games on Roblox and on the whole this is a safe platform. However, we have been notified by a few parents/carers that there is a new game called 'The Game'. As part of this game learners are asked to hurt themselves to gain points and move on levels. Please find a link from Internet Matters that provides a parent/carer guide to Roblox and how you can keep your child safe.

https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/safety-news/parents-guide-to-roblox-and-how-your-kids-can-play-it-safely/?gclid=CjwKCAiAqt-dBhBcEiwATw-ggGEf4bHCL_J327jdKimMoIwhn-YJIFa1CKDlvjc4pes96Lc7eyhZaRoCnuIQAvD_BwE



ROBLOX



New Resources from the NYSCP

The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership (NYSCP), is now running a hub of resources and information linked to raising awareness of safeguarding. The hub, designed for use by parents, carers, and young people, is also aimed at tackling child exploitation.

A portion of the NYSCP's website is dedicated to the issue of victim blaming and the language we use around crimes perpetrated against children. To find out more please follow the link below:

<https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/beaware/>

'Listen Up, Speak Up'

To start the year the NSPCC has unveiled their new 'Listen Up, Speak Up' campaign, aimed at giving adults practical advice, about how to address concerns about a child. From April 2021 to March 2022 the NSPCC Helpline spoke 8,347 times with adults, compared to 7,338 in the same period for the previous year.

The new NSPCC campaign, is designed for these situations, If interested please follow the link below:

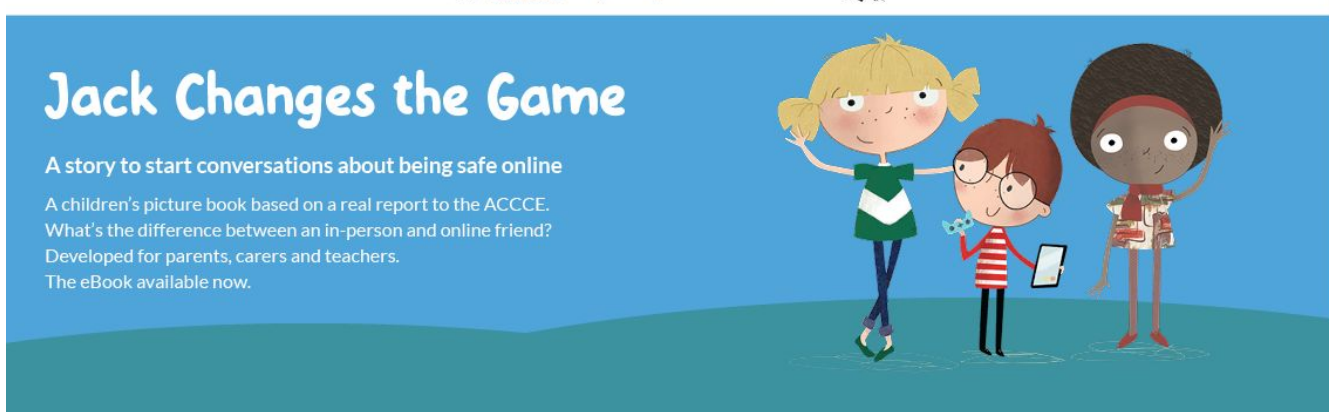
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2023/listen-up-speak-up-campaign-provides-training-to-spot-and-report-abuse/>



New Resource - 5 to 8 Year Olds - Jack Changes the Game

CEOP have released a new learning activity and picture book (PDF) for 5 to 8 year olds which can be used in the classroom or be used by parent/carers at home. The book is all about online friends and how online friends are not always as they seem.

You can see all the resources for free download [HERE](#).



Find the Fake

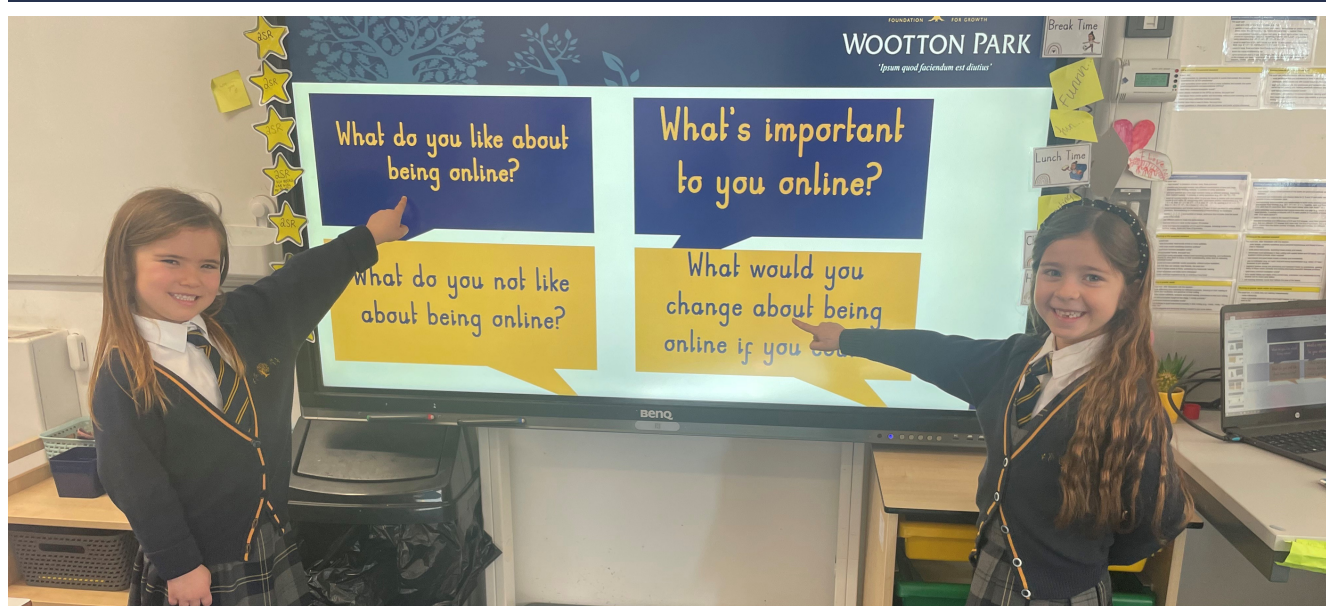
Internet Matters have a great little quiz for parents and their children to test their knowledge around areas such as fake news, disinformation, misinformation, and how to stop it from spreading. You can find the quiz [HERE](#).

Safer Internet Day 7th February 2023

How to use the internet safely is built in to our school curriculum throughout all key stages. Additional to this we also celebrate Internet Safety Day. Last year's Safer Internet Day resulted in 91% of learners stating that the event helped make them feel more confident about staying safe online. We have not got the results in from this year's event but I am sure feedback from learners will be just as positive, once this is in, we will share the figures with you. This year's theme was on 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Smith and Mr Robinson for organising such a great event.

The UK Safer Internet Centre have put together a short video for teachers and parents, which we have also shown to our learners in school. This is one and a half minutes highlighting why Internet Safety Day is important, and how awareness of internet dangers is vital to the lives of all our learners. Please take a look and the video shared by clicking on the link below:

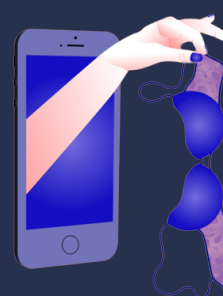
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1_gZTQ9F7w



Sharing Nudes and Semi-Nudes

A number of learners are not aware that it is a crime to possess, take, make, distribute or show anyone an indecent image of a child or young person under 18 years of age, this also includes semi-nudes.

We do educate our learners on this so they are aware of the law. There is some useful facts for parents/carers below.



Sexting and the Law

Emoji Dictionary



Emojis are becoming an increasingly common method of communication for everybody. Emojis are simple to understand, quick to type and can get the tone of the message across. In order to help safeguard our learners it is not only important to understand the language they use but also the potential emojis they may use. The Children's Society have put together a list of emojis for professionals and parents to be aware of.

https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/DEX004a_Emoji-Dictionary-A5-Leaflet_V2_DIGITAL.pdf

Body Confidence

The world is now more superficial than ever before – tiktok, Instagram, snapchat and others have standardised, what the world expects people to look like. What the world expects when someone is termed 'beautiful'. For young people, the standard idea of beauty has always been an immense pressure for those transitioning between being a child and being a young person.

Most of this transition occurs during secondary schools, and this puts an immense pressure on learners to conform with these ideas in order to be popular, or to fit within a group of friends. With an increasingly image based society low confidence among teenagers has become a far greater issue. Bullying and stigmatization against those who don't fit or don't think they fit within these standardised visions of how you should look, has an immensely negative effect on young people's mental health and that can have a negative effect on educational performance and attendance. To help young people with this, ChildLine has created a page over on their site with advice on these issues.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/you-your-body/my-body/how-you-look/>

**Body
Positive**

Bullying

Bullying exists across all of society, be it at work, within families or in public spaces. The intense pressure to fit within a certain box, or to be liked or adored by your peer base is the overriding drive of many learners.

Thousands of days of teaching time are lost to bullying, through learner absences. Learners who are bullied will often hide it from parents and teachers, concerned with feeling weak or helpless, at a time in their lives when they're increasingly being encouraged to stand on their own two feet. As such they may shy away from those who can help. The NSPCC has published a page on their site dedicated to helping you detect those warning signs which can be so vital when dealing with these issues. To find out more please follow the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>



Safeguarding during the Holidays

If you have any safeguarding concerns over the February break please contact a member of the Safeguarding Team on the following numbers:

07857 801573

07857 801568



WOOTTON PARK

Reporting a Safeguarding Concern

If you are concerned about the welfare or safety of a learner please speak to a member of the safeguarding team.



Jane Page

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Sam MacDonnell

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Claire
Woodbridge



Corinna
Kerrou



Dan
Rosser



Gemma
Kingston-Wade



Carla
Grady



Adam
Cowdell



James
Coe