E safety Update

Blackpool Aspire Academy

"Sexting"

June 2015

What is it?

'Sexting' describes the use of technology to share sexual and sexually implied content. This content includes texts, photos of partial nudity and sexual images or video. This could be shared between partners, peers and strangers. Individuals may use a range of technology to share the content.

The sharing of naked pictures is not a new thing but the speed with which you can share and the potential audience size has dramatically changed as a result of the online world.

The Law

If a young person under the age of 18 engages in sexting by creating an explicit photo or video of themselves then they have potentially created an indecent image of a child. By sending this content on to another person, they have distributed an indecent image of a child. By receiving content of this kind from another young person, they are then in possession of an indecent image of a child.

The Association of Chief Police Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland have stated that young people engaging in sexting should not face prosecution as first time offenders, but the situation will be investigated to ensure that the young people involved are not at risk. Repeat offenders and more extreme cases are reviewed differently, still with a focus on avoiding prosecution unless absolutely necessary.

Who can help me?

- Parents and carers: in order for them to support you they need to know that something has happened. Try not to be embarrassed, be honest and let them know how you are feeling
- The local police
- Child Protection Officer or caseworker at school
- If you are worried that you have been groomed or coerced into sending the content you need to make a report to CEOP

- Remember you can always speak in confidence to ChildLine or call them on 0800 1111

For more information about e safety :

- go to http://www.blackpoolaspireacademy.co.uk
- come into school and talk to a member of Student Services

E safety Update

1. NSPCC – Stay safe online survey

The NSPCC has asked 600 primary school children what information they needed to stay safe online. More than 80% said they needed to know more about privacy settings on mobile apps and games. The survey coincides with an update to the Net Aware guide which keeps parents informed of issues around social media sites and online platforms popular with their children. 12 new sites have been added to NetAware which now has over 60 social networking sites, apps and games which children use.

Link: http://www.nspcc.org.uk/fighting-for-childhood/news-opinion/Parents-missing-vital-information-in-online-safety-talks-with-children/?utm_content=buffer95e58&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

2. The Guardian– 'Paracetamol Challenge'

Police and schools have issued a warning to parents about the "paracetamol challenge", a potentially lethal social media dare that appears to encourage young people to abuse over-the-counter painkillers. The challenge, shared via Facebook and Instagram, has already resulted in one schoolboy in Ayrshire being taken to hospital.

Link: http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/paracetamol-challenge-police-and-teachers-issue-warning-to-parents-over-social-media-craze-10276757.html

3. BT.com – Parents could be oversharing photos of their children because they don't check social media privacy settings

More than 900 images of children are being shared online by parents before their fifth birthday, despite many not checking their social network privacy settings, new research claims.

Link: http://home.bt.com/tech-gadgets/tech-news/parents-could-be-oversharing-photos-of-their-children-because-they-dont-check-social-media-privacy-settings-

4. Daily Mail – Teachers trolled with homophobic and racial abuse from pupils as young as primary school age

School children of primary school age are using social media to bombard their teachers with vile homophobic and racist abuse, according to a teacher's union

Link: http://dailymail.co.uk

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