

E safety Update



May 2015

Revenge Porn

An Extract from “The Huffington Post” by Claire Lilley Head of Child Safety Online NSPCC

Anyone who shares sexually explicit images without consent could be jailed for up to two years from today, as new **revenge porn laws** come into force.

The new law applies to adults, but young people need to be aware that taking and sharing any indecent image of another teenager under 18, even when it was taken with their consent, is a serious offence.

'**Sexting**' is playing an increasingly insidious role in young people's relationships. So there is clearly a need to educate children about the risks of this behaviour to them and other young people whose images they share.

Young people frequently take huge risks by making and sending explicit images of themselves, thinking it harmless. A recent survey by ChildLine of 13-18 year-olds visiting the site found that 60% said they had been asked for a sexual image or video of themselves, four in ten said they had created this and a quarter of those questioned had sent the image or video on to someone else. While most of the requests for sexual images or videos came from a partner, a third said they received requests from strangers. They are exposing themselves to potential humiliation, bullying, or worse .

ChildLine offers practical support to children who have sent an image or video, including an app, Zipit, which is designed to defuse some of the pressures around sexting. It's full of advice, tips for safe chat and comebacks with images to help shut down conversations that are making a young person feel uncomfortable. Young people can even call ChildLine direct from the app.

For help: ChildLine and the Internet Watch Foundation can support young people to have their image removed from public sites, and help them move on positively.

Tips to help with cyberbullying

1. **Don't deny access to technology:** this may prevent your child from speaking to you about cyberbullying. When we asked a group of pupils about why they wouldn't tell someone, if they were being cyberbullied, their main response was that they were worried the technology that they use on a daily basis would be taken away from them.
2. **Discuss cyberbullying with your child:** explore the tools available together and know how to report nasty messages.
3. **Save the evidence:** encourage your child to save the evidence of any messages they receive. This is so they have something to show when they do report the cyberbullying.
4. **Don't reply:** most of the time the bully is looking for a reaction when they're teasing or calling someone nasty names. Tell your child not to reply, if they do they're giving the bully exactly what they want. Instead, they should tell someone about what they have seen.

For more information about e safety :

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