

E safety Update



1. Teach children about dangers of 'sexting' and pornography at school, first official guidance on online education says

July 2019

The Department for Education is publishing an advice document that stipulates which topics should be covered when teaching pupils about technology and the internet.

In lessons, teachers could explain what sorts of online activities are illegal, particularly where it may be seen as “normal” behaviour among youngsters, such as “youth-produced sexual imagery” otherwise known as “sexting”.

“This could include copyright, sharing illegal content such as extreme pornography or terrorist content, as well as the illegality of possession, creating or sharing any explicit images of a child even if created by a child,” the guidance says.

Children could also be taught how to spot fake websites and how games encourage users to keep playing. Different types of online abuse such as sexual harassment, bullying, trolling and intimidation could also be covered.

Under legislation passed in 2017, age-appropriate relationship education is to become compulsory in all primary schools, while sex and relationship education is compulsory in secondaries.

Speaking at the NSPCC annual conference today, Damian Hinds, the Education Secretary, will say: “I have seen some online companies arguing that children should be treated as adults online once they pass the age of 13.

“To them I say this: children are children – this is as true in the online world as the real one.

“You have a responsibility to your young users and it is time for you to step up to make sure they are protected from online harms and upsetting content until they reach adulthood.”

Link: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/06/26/teach-children-dangers-sexting-pornography-school-first-official/>

2. Police log 22 online sex crimes against children every day, says NSPCC

The NSPCC has called on the government to prioritise young people’s online safety after figures revealed police forces in the UK record an average of 22 cyber-related sex crimes against children every day.

The number of sexual offences against under-18s logged by police as having an online element doubled in four years to more than 8,000 in 2018-19, according to figures gathered by the children’s charity from 40 forces in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The most common age of the victim was 13, but 185 offences involved children aged 10 and under, including babies, a series of freedom of information requests revealed. The crimes include online grooming, sexual communication with a child, and rape.

Link: https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/jun/25/police-online-sex-crimes-recorded-against-children-nsppcc-figures?CMP=share_btn_tw

For more information about e safety :

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

3. Facebook putting secrecy before accountability, says NSPCC boss

July 2019

Facebook is placing privacy and secrecy ahead of accountability, according to a children's charity boss.

Peter Wanless, chief executive of the NSPCC – which has campaigned for regulation for the past two years – said end-to-end encryption on Facebook's Messenger service is a "risk and a backward step" in keeping children safe online.

The social media giant pledged to begin a "new chapter" in its history as it revealed plans to be more privacy-focused at its annual developer conference in California in April.

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Peter Wanless

Messenger, the app taking the lead in Facebook's new privacy-focused approach, has been made end-to-end encrypted by default for the first time, fully securing messages sent on the service.

In an interview with The Daily Telegraph, Mr Wanless said: "It places privacy and secrecy ahead of accountability and transparency.

"It's really disappointing that reaction to the NSPCC's call for a safer internet is to make it more secret and more dangerous.

"What I would say to Mark Zuckerberg is: you have a duty of care and a responsibility to the people who are using your services, very many of whom are children and young people."

In April, the Government published its white paper on online harms which threatens tech giants with large fines and criminal liability of bosses.

The white paper, published jointly by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the Home Office, proposes strict new rules be introduced that require firms to take responsibility for their users and their safety, as well as the content that appears on their services.

Mr Wanless said the proposals would make the UK a "world pioneer" in protecting children online.

Link: <https://www.expressandstar.com/news/uk-news/2019/06/23/facebook-putting-secrecy-before-accountability-says-nspcc-boss/>