



Nether Stowe School

St Chad's Road, Lichfield, Staffordshire. WS13 7NB

Tel: 01543 263446 & 263487 Fax: 01543 414602

Headteacher: Miss R Poppleton

Email: office@netherstowe.com Website: www.netherstowe.com



7th June, 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Child Sexual Exploitation – Parent/Carer Awareness Session

In this current, rapidly changing climate, young people can be exposed to ever increasing risks via the internet and / or technical devices.

We work very closely with Staffordshire Police's Preventing CSE team in order to best support and educate parents, as well as students.

Please read the information over, giving details of an upcoming awareness session, being held here at Nether Stowe. We have been asked if you could confirm your intention to attend, so that the member of the team delivering will have an approximate idea of audience size.

You can do this either by emailing myself directly (dsullivan@netherstowe.com) or by leaving a message on the usual school number, extension 216.

Yours faithfully,

D Sullivan

Miss D J Sullivan
Assistant Head, Learning Support
Designated Safeguarding Lead.





I write to you on behalf of Nether Stowe School, Staffordshire Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner about the challenging subject of child sexual exploitation (CSE). The reason we are writing to you is to highlight that we take the safety of our children and young people seriously and recognise that you have the most critical role in helping us to achieve this, either as a parent, carer, family member, neighbour or as a member of your community.

The numbers of children identified as being either at risk of, or actually being sexually exploited, are relatively small.

However, technologies such as mobile phones and the internet mean that exploitation may occur without your child's permission or without your child even recognising that they are being exploited; for example through being persuaded to post sexual images over the internet or through mobile phone images.

The Police and the Local Authority want to be proactive in helping you be aware of the risks that your children may meet, either face-to-face or virtually through social media and the internet.

The Local Authority and the Police have the statutory duty to safeguard all children living in Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent irrespective of which school they attend and we work in partnership with others to achieve this.

You are receiving this letter as we will be holding an awareness session at **Nether Stowe School on Monday 12th June from 6:00 – 7:15pm**. We invite you to come along to this event where you will get the chance to view a presentation, as well as have the opportunity to speak to members of the team and also be given information leaflets.

By being aware of the warning signs of CSE you can help stop abuse before it develops further. Some of the warning signs are:

- **Your child may become especially secretive and stop engaging with their usual friends.**
- **They may be associating with, or develop a sexual relationship with older males or females**
- **They may go missing from home – and be defensive about their location and activities, often returning home late or staying out all night**
- **They may be missing school**



- They may receive odd calls and messages on their mobiles or social media pages from unknown, possibly much older associates from outside their normal social network
- They may be in possession of new, expensive items which they couldn't normally afford, such as mobile phones, iPads or jewellery
- They may exhibit a sudden change in dressing patterns or musical taste
- They may look tired and/or unwell, and sleep at unusual hours
- They may have marks or scars on their body which they try to conceal
- They may adopt new 'street language' or respond to a new 'street' name
- You may also have these worries about a friend of your child
- You can also help prevent abuse by talking to your child about:
 - Healthy and risky relationships
 - Which websites they're using and ask them to show you how they work
 - Being very careful to befriend and communicate with only trusted people that they know
 - Assuring them that it's OK to come to you or another trusted adult if they feel threatened by or uncomfortable about something they have seen or done on a social networking site/instant messaging service

If you are concerned your child or another child known to you is at risk you can contact Staffordshire Police by calling 101 or 999 in an emergency. You can also contact the **Staffordshire – Families First – 0800 1313 126**

Alternatively, you can speak to a member of staff at school for advice.

For further information about how you can help protect your child/children from the risks of CSE, visit www.knowaboutcse.co.uk or <http://www.paceuk.info/support-for-parents/advice-centre/>

Yours faithfully,

Ann-Marie Jackson
Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation Officer
Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation Team
Staffordshire Police Head Quarters
Weston Rd
Stafford
ST18 0YY