

Safeguarding & Child Protection at Ellesmere Port Catholic High School



WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WELCOME
BACK ALL OF OUR STUDENTS TO SCHOOL .

Dear Lord,

Fill our lives with Joy

Fill our lives with Love

Fill our loves with Peace

We give thanks to you for the gift of life,

Give us the courage to live it to the full.

Amen

At EPCHS we are :

Ready

Respectful
Safe

"Great things happen when you care"



Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr Colin Jones

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Carly Hughes

Useful Acronyms and Vocabulary

CEOP - Child Exploitation
and On-line Protection
Centre

CYC—Cheshire Young
Carers

CAMHS - Child and
Adolescent Mental Health
Services

KSCIE - Keeping Children
Safe in Education

RSE - Relationships and
Sex Education

ELSA - Emotional Literacy
Support Assistants

Useful Websites

youngminds.org.uk

nspcc.org.uk

childline.org.uk

cheshireyoungcarers.org

ldas.org.uk

papyrus-uk.org

We are an operation encompass school...what does this mean?



Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident.

We have ensured that members of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead & Deputy Safeguarding Lead) known as Key Adults, have been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care.

The SHARP System

The SHARP System (Student Help Advice Reporting Page System)

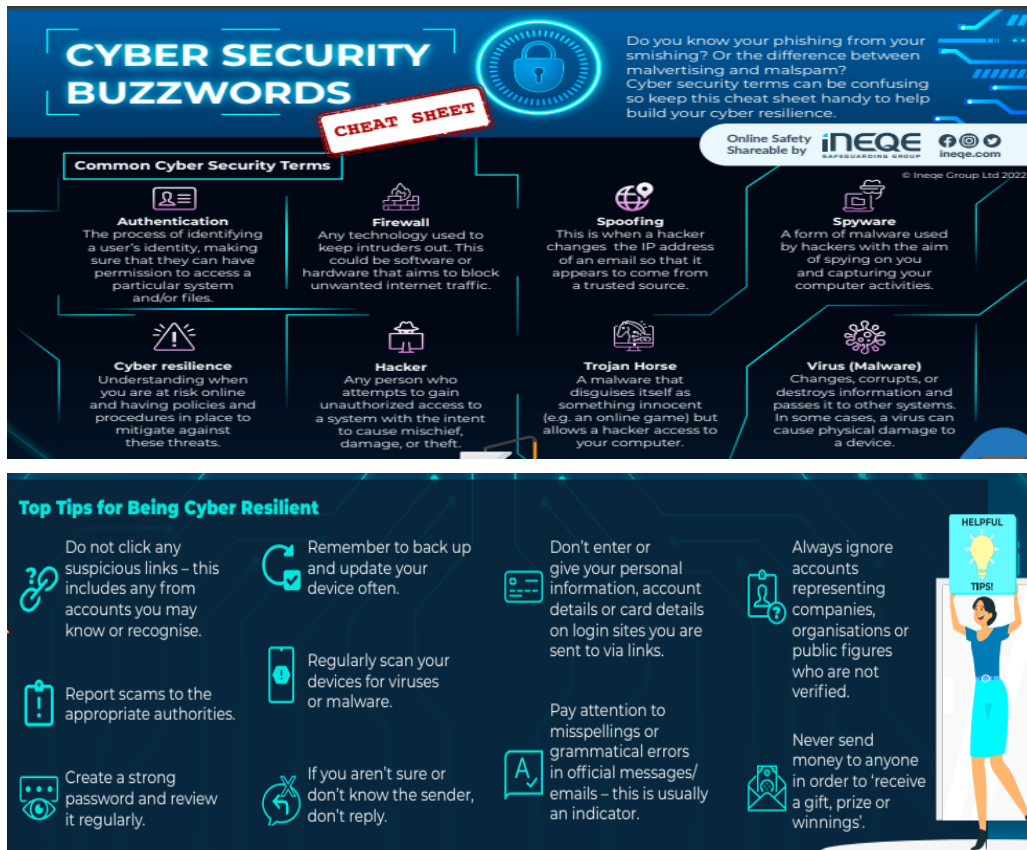
SHARP allows young people to report any incidents which occur within the school and local community anonymously and without fear. Aside from the reporting tool **SHARP** delivers educational content to raise awareness on a wide range of subjects including: Bullying, Health, Community Issues, Weapons and Hate Crime.

So Why Use SHARP?

There are many reasons why young people decide not to talk about incidents, whether that is due to not wanting to talk face to face, lack of confidence, scared, peer pressure or scared in case someone sees them talking to or seen in the schools office but to name just a few.

SHARP is a web based tool which is personalised to each school together with a photograph of a member of staff who is trusted and well known within the school. The **SHARP** System promotes inclusion, safeguarding, e-safety and provides additional opportunities for students to report their concerns. *SHARP is available through the school website.*

Cyber Security Awareness Month



Just as you have taught your child to look both ways before crossing the street, it is important to teach them a few essential cyber life skills.

1. Never leave your device unattended. ...
2. Click with caution. ...
3. Never ever share your password. ...
4. Be wary of using social media.
5. Be a good online citizen.

Fireworks - The Law - Under the [Firework Regulations 2004](#), it is an **offence** to:

- possess adult fireworks (all fireworks except category 1 fireworks – party poppers, sparklers, throw downs etc) in a public place by anyone under the age of **18**;
- possess category 4 fireworks (professional display fireworks) by anyone other than a fireworks professional;
- it is illegal to supply adult fireworks to those under **18**;
- throw or cast or fire any firework in or into any highway, street, thoroughfare or public space (this would include throwing or firing from a private place into a public place, street, highway etc)

There is a curfew on the use of adult fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except on:

- Bonfire Night (when the curfew is between 12 midnight and 7am)
- New Years Eve (when the curfew is between 1am and 7am);
- Chinese New Year (when the curfew is between 1am and 7am);
- Diwali Night (when the curfew is between 1am and 7am).

You can be fined up to £5,000 and imprisoned for up to 6 months for selling or using fireworks illegally. You could also get an on-the-spot fine of £90

STOP, DROP, ROLL

Always remember, if your clothing catches fire - **STOP, DROP and ROLL**.

If your clothes catch fire, running around won't help. You must always stop, drop to the ground (cover your face with your hands) and roll over and over. Make sure you roll over a few times, to ensure that you put the fire out.

Preventing child exploitation

Children can be exploited in many ways, including being trafficked, sexually exploited and used to run drugs. All of these come under the banner of child exploitation.

Definition of child exploitation

Child exploitation refers to the use of children for someone else's advantage, gratification or profit often resulting in unjust, cruel and harmful treatment of the child.

These activities are to the detriment of the child's physical or mental health, education, moral or social-emotional development. It covers situations of manipulation, misuse, abuse, victimisation, oppression or ill-treatment.

Save the Children, 2020

Child Criminal Exploitation... occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child Criminal Exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a form of sexual abuse of young people. It is not just something that affects teenage girls or specific groups and can happen in and out of school. It involves an individual or group coercing, manipulating and deceiving a child into sexual activity. Children as young as 8 have been sexually exploited.

County lines are a network between an urban centre and county location where drugs are sold often over a mobile phone. Children and vulnerable people are used to transport drugs, cash or even weapons. It can involve intimidation, blackmail and serious violence.

How do you protect your child? Advice from The Children's Society...

It is important to know that you are not alone and not to blame. There are many parents and carers in similar situations and there are things you can do to help protect your child: -

Report your concerns to Children's Social Care. A social worker can help you take steps to protect your child. They will make an assessment based on concern your child is at risk of harm from outside of the family. - If you would like more support, go to other professionals who can help: your GP, school, police or a youth worker.

- You can report your concerns to the police and say 'I suspect my child is being trafficked for criminal exploitation'.

- If your child isn't where they are supposed to be, report them missing straight away on 101. You do not have to wait 24 hours.

- If your child is picked up in a car, or has train or bus tickets, keep a record of this information to give to the police or social worker

- There may be other evidence that your child is being exploited, such as interactions on social media, unexplained money, clothing or gifts, change in behaviour; where possible try to keep a record of this

**Speak to your child about what you're worried about - Let them know they aren't in trouble – and that you're worried*

**There may be threats made against you or your family by the people exploiting your child. Your child may believe that they are protecting you.*

**Let your child know that you know about this risk and that it is not their responsibility to protect you*

Are all your contact details up-to-date?

If you change your home phone/email/mobile number, please let the school know, so that we have the most up-to-date contact details for you.

HEALTHY AND UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Relationships can be confusing. Especially if you really like someone but they do things you're not comfortable with.

Being in a relationship can be exciting and should make you feel happy. A healthy relationship is when everyone feels respected, trusted and valued for who they are.

A healthy relationship includes:

- **Good communication** - You and your partner can talk openly about things without feeling scared of what might happen, or being judged for what you've said.
- **Mutual respect** - You listen to each other and respect each other's boundaries. And nobody does anything to make you feel uncomfortable, scared or humiliated.
- **Trust** - You can trust each other without getting jealous, including being able to spend time with other people.
- **Honesty** - Being able to say what you think and feel without censoring yourself or worrying what might happen.
- **Equality** - Nobody in a relationship should have power over the other person, and it's never okay for someone to force you to do something.
- **Being yourself** - You're able to keep being yourself, doing things you enjoy and spending time with friends and family outside of the relationship.

It's not always easy to spot when your relationship is becoming unhealthy or abusive. But if something is making you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, then it's important to talk about it.

Signs of an unhealthy relationship:

- your partner going through your phone
- being criticised for how you look, or having to change your appearance; getting bullied, hurt or hit, this is [always abuse](#) feeling pressure to do sexual things or [send nudes](#)
- being stopped from seeing people, or getting jealous if you do
- feeling like you're not in control of what you do or say
- receiving gifts, but being made to feel like you need to do something in return

If you're worried or unsure about something in your relationship, it can help to talk about it.



WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE?

If you think someone else might be in an unhealthy relationship, it can be difficult to know what to do. Especially if the person you're worried about is [being groomed](#) or doesn't see things the way you do.

Anyone can be in an unhealthy relationship. And if you're worried, there are things you can do to help.

If you're worried about someone:

- tell why you're worried and that you're there for them when they're ready to talk
- share information on this page about healthy relationships
- tell [someone you trust](#), like a parent, carer or teacher
- get advice from the [message boards](#) or a [Childline counsellor](#)
- help them make a [safety plan](#), and in an emergency call 999

When you're supporting someone else, it's important to take care of yourself as well. School & Childline are always [here to support you](#).