



**Welcome to the Ercall Wood  
Safeguarding Bulletin**

**Issue 10**

**Welcome to our Spring Term 2  
addition of safeguarding Newsletter  
from The Ercall Wood Academy  
Safeguarding Team**

**Contents:**

- Children's Commissioner report on sexual harassment
- NSPCC - New helpline for people who have experienced sexual harassment or abuse in education
- [Stop It Now! UK and Ireland](#)
- Family Lives charity
- Young Minds
- "whatsapp" scam alert
- parental on-line safety tips



The Children's Commissioner recently published a guidance document for parents helping to support them to understand online sexual harassment. It is a sensitive topic, and not one all parents feel comfortable discussing with their children. The commissioner's team gathered a group of 16 -21- year-olds and asked them about what they think parents should know and what they should say to their children when talking about sexualised bullying and the pressures of growing up online.

**Key advice from the young adults included:**

- Start conversations early, before your child gets a phone or social media account. Keep the conversation going over time, adapting to your child.
- Young people want their parents to learn about new technology and trends, including risky behaviours and dangerous spaces online.
- Create a safe and trusting home environment. Young people told us the home environment is key, they want to share things with their parents but don't always feel able.

For more information, the report 'The things I wish my parents had known...' can be downloaded [here](#):

# NSPCC

**NSPCC – Our new helpline for people**

# who have experienced sexual harassment or abuse in education

This new dedicated helpline provides support to both children and adults who have experienced sexual abuse in educational settings or has concerns about someone or the issues raised. Support and advice include how to contact the police and report crimes if they wish.

The helpline will also provide support to parents too. More information is available at [Dedicated helpline for victims of abuse in schools NSPCC](#)



[Stop It Now! UK and Ireland](#) encourages adults to create a society that no longer tolerates the sexual abuse of children. There is a confidential and anonymous

helpline– [0808 1000 900](#)

chat, secure email if you are not ready to speak to someone on the phone. Click the following links: – [Stop It Now Stop It Now! Secure email](#)



The Family Lives charity aims to offer all parents somewhere to turn before they reach crisis point. Crisis support, provided for over 40 years through their helpline, has always been at the heart of what they do.

Family Lives also have an excellent website to help parents with the ups and downs of family life. For advice and useful tips about

building resilience in children and teens can be download from [here](#):

The Family Lives parents' helpline is available Monday to Friday, 1.30 - 9pm on [0808 800 2222](tel:08088002222). The website can be found [here](#):



**Young Minds** have a page dedicated to advice for people when they are struggling to cope. It covers a wide range of reasons why a young person might be feeling down or in need of support, as well as links to support services and tips to feel better.

[See the webpage here](#) – useful advice to signpost young people to.



## WHATSAPP SCAM ALERT – BE VIGILANT!

There is currently a convincing **WhatsApp** scam in circulation responsible for some victims losing thousands of pounds.

The victims receive texts claiming to be from their son/daughter or other family member saying they have lost or broken their mobile phone, and that the number they are texting from is their new number. They then request financial help, asking money is sent urgently.

Some of the scam's victims have suffered a significant financial loss in addition to emotional upset.

**Which?**

# SCAM ALERT

## WATCH OUT FOR FRAUDSTERS POSING AS FAMILY MEMBERS ON WHATSAPP

The graphic features a red background with a large, distressed 'SCAM ALERT' stamp. Below the stamp, the text 'WATCH OUT FOR FRAUDSTERS POSING AS FAMILY MEMBERS ON WHATSAPP' is written in white. At the bottom, three screenshots of WhatsApp messages are displayed. The first screenshot shows a child asking their mother to save a temporary number. The second screenshot shows the child asking for help with a payment that cannot be made on their new phone. The third screenshot shows the child asking for help with a payment that cannot be made on their old phone.



## PARENTAL ON-LINE SAFETY TIPS

With the technological advances that had to be made during the lockdown periods over the last 18 months, learning from home was forced to be increased. This meant that young people were spending a lot more time on-line doing their schoolwork, gaming and socialising. However, it's important we all consider how we can help keep young people safer online. Here's some information

about what your child may enjoy online and what you can do to help keep them safer!

## Online gaming

Online games are social activities, and most have features that allow young people to chat with others whilst they play.

For information about the positives of gaming, the risks of 'in-game chat' and measures you can take to help protect your child, watch this short video:

**In-game chat: a guide for**

## Sharing images and videos

Young people often share images or 'selfies' and there

is potential for some of those to be nude or nearly nude images. Young people share 'nudes' for a number of different reasons, and some situations are riskier than others.

For information about the contexts in which images are

# The Ercall Wood academy Safeguarding Team

The Ercall Wood academy Safeguarding Team have been trained to an advanced level on all aspects of safeguarding. The team is available to any student, parent or school staff member to discuss and report any safeguarding concerns.

The team members are:

# SAFEGUARDING TEAM



**Mr Darren Andrews**

**Designated Safeguard Lead — Assistant Principal**



**Ms L Moore**

**Deputy Designated Safeguard Lead**



**Mrs L Kelly**

**Level 2 Safeguarding  
Pastoral Lead Year 10**



**Ms K Athawes**

**Level 2 Safeguarding  
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**Mrs J Leese**

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SEND**



Yours sincerely,

**Mr Darren Andrews**

Assistant Principal/Designated Safeguarding Lead

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