eSafetyTraining
'The 2 Johns'

At the Acle Recreation Centre

27th March 2023, organised by our Cluster

This week all staff and children attended a safer internet day to help raise our awareness of how to stay safe when using the internet. Parents were invited in the evening, we wanted to share some information so that all parents are more aware of how to keep our children safe. We were shocked – we thought we had robust policies and procedures and good knowledge around this. We are working hard to update these as quickly as possible and want to share with you the information we received and signpost you to find out more. We will be holding an internet safety parent's meeting on various dates and times in the hope that these important messages reach everyone, so we are all working together to stay safe.

The following information can be found at: https://esafetytraining.org

The Dangers of Strangers Online
Welcome from The 2 Johns

Internet Watch Foundation Report

Full report: https://annualreport2021.iwf.org.uk

We are totally shocked by the latest report from the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)
They report – 97% of all Child Sexual Abuse material identified by IWF in 2021 featured the sexual abuse of girls.
We have been highlighting this disparity for 3 years now and each year the percentage increases.
We can't sit back and ignore this. A large percentage of the material will relate to abuse by paedophiles but a lot will also relate to material generated through peer on peer abuse in secondary schools, made worse through an increasing level of misogyny amongst teenage boys.
Please make sure you open up serious conversations with your children both boys and girls.
Let's make sure girls are fully aware of how freely content depicting them is spreading around the world.
Let's talk to our boys about respect for women and make sure they realise the outrageous level of misogyny depicted on apps like TikTok and through modern music is not an appropriate way to build relationships with girls.
Let's all work together to promote a much better outcome for our young girls.
(www.esafetytraining.org, accessed 28/3/23)

Staggering figures from the report – abuse online has increased 10-fold since lock down.

In 2021...

- The IWF assessed 361,062 reports and 7 in 10 (252,194 reports) of those led to finding imagery online of children being sexually abused.

- 2021 was the year that they saw sexual abuse imagery of girls being shared more widely than any previous year. Girls were seen in 97% of the imagery the IWF helped to remove.

- Almost 7 in 10 instances of child sexual abuse involved 11-13 year olds. And when we see imagery of babies, toddlers and young children aged 6 and under, they are more likely to be suffering Category A child sexual abuse over Category B, or Category C.

- IWF saw a high proportion of boys aged 3-6 appearing in sexual abuse imagery, often with a female sibling. Criminals will coerce children into bringing their younger siblings online with them, exploiting the opportunity to abuse more than one victim in the same household.

- In 2021, we sadly saw a three-fold increase in "self-generated" imagery showing 7-10-year-olds. Children have spent an increasing amount of time online during the pandemic, leaving them vulnerable to grooming and coercion by abusers who manipulate them into recording their own abuse on camera.

- Life is increasingly lived online, and older children are often quick to explore new technology. As in previous years, we have seen more children aged 11-13 in "self-generated" child sexual abuse imagery, created using webcams or smartphones, than any other age group. These devices can act as an open door into children's homes, often their own bedrooms.

Links for support:

https://esafetytraining.org/resources/online-safety-videos/

https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-family-toolkit

https://talk.iwf.org.uk

https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety

https://esafetytraining.org/resources/parents-carers-area/settings

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

https://parentzone.org.uk

Our children's reaction

The level of detail shared with the children was obviously less than what we have shared with you here and what we learned in our session but we were shocked to see that our children put their hands up to 'sneaky' behaviour around using the internet and devices at home. Most put their hands up to knowing how to use apps without their parents' knowledge. But what was most difficult to hear was, most shared that if they got into trouble and were in a situation, where they felt unsafe they would not tell their parents about this for fear of being 'told off' and losing their device privileges – this **IS** scary. It falls to us to make sure we have a safe non-judgmental environment, where children feel confident to share, when things go wrong for them online. This is what we are trying to do with this article and with our plan to hold internet safety days next term.

After the session, I asked my class to reflect on their learning – these are anonymous but show the impact of this experience…

I asked them to:

Share one thing that you will continue to do…

Share one thing you will stop doing ore reduce doing…

Share one thing you will do in future…

"Change my privacy settings"

"Not give out any information to strangers.

Go on my devices less.

Keep checking my privacy settings."

"I'm going to continue playing online games.

I'm going to reduce talking to strangers online.

I changed my mum's settings on what's app

"Keep checking my privacy settings are secure – I changed mine as soon as John told us about it!

Assume that children are following rules around usage of games and apps and online safety.

Update all our policies and share everything we have learned" – Miss Spaul

"Watch out for sketchy people.

Stop talking to strangers on Roblox.

Check my privacy settings are secure."

The upshot of this is that we need to work together to ensure children are aware of the dangers – it is not a bag of sweets and a white van anymore – it is something far more sinister and covert. Please do:

- Talk to your child about what they learned in their session
- Set fair and sensible parameters for them to follow for online and device usage
- Follow some of the links shared in this article and watch some of the videos with your child.

The John's equated the internet to a bullet train, speeding to an unknown destination – would you allow your child to get on that train alone or would you go along with them till they find their feet and feel confident – exploring the stops along the way?

Follow this link to watch the full Two Johns Parent Workshop…

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/6so_BwlrjeB8qKLNemMHtJN4K8oq7R7Ik4hNexSZhSlUWxxgiSp3zqpVGxys1MLY.mDvC1Tqn8K02jt9X

This link is valid until the end of April 2023