



Mrs J. Bailey

Designated Senior Person
Safeguarding and Welfare



Miss B.J. Smith

Deputy Designated Senior Person
Safeguarding and Welfare

If you are concerned for a child's health, welfare or safety in any way, you must speak to the Designated Senior Person (DSP), Mrs J. Bailey, the Deputy Designated Senior Person (DDSP), Miss B. Smith or any member of the Leadership Team before you leave the premises.

Please ask at Reception for contact details for the above.

1

If you want to report anything that is worrying you inside or outside school you can report it using the **SPEAK OUT** button on the website.

2

Go to the website and click on students.



3

The **SPEAK OUT** button will be right in front of you, click on it and follow the instructions...



Safeguarding.

Drug misuse: according to the police and their analysis of 995 samples of cannabis sold illegally in this country most of it is super-strength skunk linked to a higher risk of psychotic mental health episodes. In 2016, 94% of police seizures were high-potency marijuana, compared to 85% in 2008 and 51% in 2005. The drug contains more of the psychoactive ingredient THC than some other types of cannabis, such as hash.

Although you may think – what has this to do with me and my child, the use of cannabis by young people is a grave concern and we all need to be aware of the dangers that smoking cannabis can cause and this added information that we have been given.

Types of cannabis: There are three main types of street cannabis - hash (hashish or resin), herbal cannabis (weed, grass or marijuana) and high-potency cannabis or skunk.

Hash is made from the resin of the plant, while herbal cannabis is made from the dried leaves and flowering parts of pollinated cannabis plants. Skunk is made from unpollinated cannabis plants which naturally contain higher levels of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) - the substance that gives recreational users the 'stoned' feelings they seek from the drug, but can also cause nasty side effects, including paranoia and hallucinations.

How risky is skunk? It's argued that cannabis with high levels of THC and no or very low CBD (cannabidiol) can lead to people developing psychiatric issues. The skunk examined by the researchers from King's College London, which has been seized in the UK, was high potency - about 14% THC.

Previous work by the same team, based on a study of 780 people, suggests the risk of psychosis is three times higher for users of potent "skunk-like" cannabis than for non-users.

According to the Royal College of Psychiatrists, there is sufficient evidence to show that people who use cannabis, particularly at a younger age, such as around the age of 15, have a higher than average risk of developing a psychotic illness, including schizophrenia or bipolar disorder.

Cannabis and the law - Cannabis is a Class B drug - it's illegal to possess, give away or sell. Possession is illegal whatever you're using it for, including pain relief. The penalty for possession is up to five years in prison. Supplying can get you up to 14 years and an unlimited fine. Giving it to friends, even if they don't pay, is considered as supplying.

School Policy - Any student exposing other students to drugs/drug use may be permanently excluded.

Technology to be aware of:

AVINO - this is an avatar game, where young people make their own avatar. It may appear very innocent and 'just a game', but it actually contains very graphic imagery.

MUSHY MONSTERS and MY CELEBRITY – need to be looked out for. **MUSICALITY** – is live streaming and open to anyone to see. **Butterfly challenge** – self harming site.

TINDER – one which you may have all heard about, but there's also; **GRINDER** (gay dating site), **BLENDER** (bi-sexual dating site), **GLENDIA** (lesbian dating site).

BATE OUT PAGES - this is where you create a group and this is where conversations can be changed against images which can be harmful, hurtful and slanderous.



What is 'Trolling'?

'Trolling' is a form of internet slang. A 'troll' is described as somebody who deliberately posts negative or offensive comments online against others. A troll will ultimately post something offensive to provoke an individual for a reaction. Trolls use social media accounts to post their opinions opinions which may be anything from racial, homophobic or sexist hate. The motive maybe that they wish to showcase an opinion, or generate humour, however the pragmatics of what they post could be much more damaging. Trolling can lead to devastating consequences for some victims.



Where does 'Trolling' occur?

Trolling can happen to anyone, at any time when using the Internet. Trolls tend to target people they don't know, for example, celebrities, in order to try and provoke a reaction from their fan base. It's important to recognise that 'trolling' can occur on any online platform where communication is possible. Social media is the most common platform for trolling, due to its accessibility and ease of sharing posts.

What is the law?

In October 2016, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) introduced new laws that could see those who create "derogatory hashtags" or post "humiliating" photoshopped images jailed. They also announced the launch of a hate crime consultation, issuing a series of public policy statements centred on combating crimes against disabled people, as well as racial, religious, homophobic and transphobic hate crime.



Trolling offences include:

Communications sent
via social media

Virtual mobbing

Cyber bullying

Disclosing private sexual
images without consent

Coercion and control

Cyber stalking
and harassment

Child Sexual exploitation

Children are most vulnerable to sexual exploitation between the ages of 13 and 15, but younger victims are being targeted all the time.

What is child sexual exploitation?

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of child abuse. It happens when a young person is encouraged, or forced, to take part in sexual activity in exchange for something.

- The reward might be presents, money, alcohol, or simply emotional attention.
- It can happen to any child or young person.
- It might seem like a normal friendship or relationship to begin with.
- It can happen online or offline, and without the young person being aware of it.

Who does it happen to?

- Any young person can be a victim of child sexual exploitation.
- It can happen to boys as well as girls.
- It can happen to young people of all races and backgrounds.
- Young people experiencing problems at home who go missing or are in care can be vulnerable and particularly at risk, but child sexual exploitation can also happen to those from a loving, supportive home.
- No matter who is affected by child sexual exploitation, it is never, ever their fault – even if they agreed to the sexual activity because they felt they 'should'. A child may agree to sexual activity because they felt they had no other choice and or do not fully understand consent.

Who does it?

People who commit this crime can be male or female and they normally have an 'edge' over the young people they target. They might be older, wealthier, or physically stronger than them. They may have status that makes them seem 'cool' to others, and might give support and attention that no one else provides. They might listen, offer advice, or give compliments. There's no standard profile of an exploiter, and child sexual exploitation can also happen between young people – peer to peer and especially within gangs or social groups.

Because there's no standard profile of an offender, child sexual exploitation is hard to spot – even for the young person affected. They may be groomed over time and so not be aware that they are a victim, and even if they are, they may think that it's their fault.

How does it happen?

At first, a young person may like, respect, or even think they are falling in love with the person exploiting them. This is because they are 'groomed' over time. This process involves making them feel 'special', so they become attached. But later, the behaviour of the abuser starts to change, often slowly. By this point, the young person is likely to feel trapped, isolated and scared, and they may find it difficult to acknowledge that they are no longer comfortable in the relationship.

If you know someone who this might be happening to or if it may be happening to you speak out- use the button or contact Mrs Bailey/Mrs Smith.