



The Stable School

Safeguarding newsletter

March 2025



Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me directly on: Linda@thestableschool.co.uk

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Supporting your child to feel safe online



The Safer Schools and Communities Team have collated advice for parents, carers and guardians to help guide and support children and young people in keeping safe. This includes what to do if your child is being bullied (on or offline) has sent or received indecent images, found in possession of drugs or is being exploited.

The video includes

Information about social media apps

Gaming and 'livestreaming'

Online bullying

Grooming

Youth produced sexual imagery

There is also an explanation on how young people can be radicalised and some signposting to sites for support.

<https://services.devon-cornwall.police.uk/ssct/os-for-parents-2022-click-and-play.pptx>

Cyber bullying



Cyberbullying is bullying that is carried out via digital technology. It includes:

- Sending threatening or abusive text messages
- Creating and sharing embarrassing images or videos
- 'Trolling', the act of sending menacing or upsetting messages on social networks
- Chat rooms or online games
- Excluding children from online games, activities or friendship groups
- Setting up hate sites or groups about a particular child
- Encouraging young people to self-harm
- Voting for or against someone in an abusive poll
- Creating fake accounts
- Hijacking or stealing online identities to embarrass a young person or cause trouble using their name
- Sending explicit messages, also known as sexting
- Reassuring children into sending sexual images or engaging in sexual conversations

Spotting the signs of cyberbullying

It can be very difficult to spot the signs that a child is being cyberbullied. No individual sign will confirm that bullying is happening. Parents and professionals need to look out for signs such as:

- Changes in behaviour
- Becoming distressed or withdrawn
- Not wanting to go to school
- Sleeping or eating poorly
- Being secretive about use of their phone or tablet
- Having problems with friends

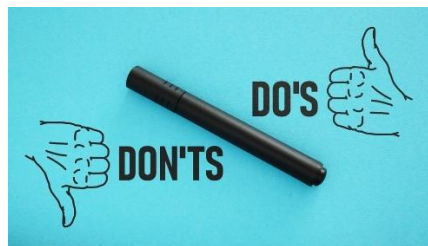


Texting Etiquette

Nurturing Responsible Communication.

It's not uncommon for children to have access to a mobile device at an early age. However, handing over a phone to a child without any prior training on texting etiquette can lead to unexpected consequences.

From excessive use of emojis to spam-like messaging habits, it is essential to teach children responsible communication skills. Additionally, being vigilant about their interactions can help identify potential safeguarding risks. Here, we explore the importance of teaching children texting etiquette and how to ensure their safety.



When introducing a child to text messaging, it is crucial to lay a foundation of proper etiquette. Here are some key points to consider:

- a) **Clear Communication:** Teach your child the importance of clear and concise messaging. Encourage them to express their thoughts in a way that is easily understood and avoids confusion.
- b) **Respectful Language:** Emphasise the significance of respectful language and discourage the use of offensive or derogatory terms. Teach them to treat others over text messages with the same respect they would in face-to-face interactions.

Emojis Parents Should Know

 Goat Greatest of all time	 Octopus Cuddle	 Skull Funny
 Snake Backstabber	 Fire Sexy, lit, or fire	 Baseball cap A lie
 Pizza I love you	 Nail Polish Not bothered	 Syringe Tattoo
 Woman with one hand raised Exasperated	 Avocado Basic, uninteresting	 Fishing pole Fishing for a compliment
 Kitchen knife Stabby (in a bad mood) or wanting to cause damage	 Snowflake Derogatory term for someone easily offended	 Hand with a pencil Take note, or pay attention

 Smiley face with horns, Bone Want to have sex	 Fingers pointing at each other Feeling shy	 Tongue, Lollipop, Face with tongue out Oral sex, licking
 Women with bunny ears Sex worker, or girl's night out	 Eggplant, Banana Male genitalia	 Raised fist and sweat Masturbation
 Peach Bum	 Water closet Toilet, or woman crush	 Sweat drops Orgasm
 Woman with OK gesture Female orgasm	 Dizzy face Just saw something X-rated	 Eyes Send an explicit picture
 Microphone Male orgasm	 Mailbox and raised flag May mean sex	 Love hotel Brothel
 Grapes Testicles	 Cherries Breasts	 Circus tent Erection

<p>👯 Woman dancing</p> <p>Want to party</p>	<p>🌳🌿🍷🌱🍃 Tree, Herb, Gas, Broccoli, Clover, Green Check</p> <p>Marijuana</p>	<p>🍁 Maple leaf</p> <p>Cannabis or drugs in general</p>
<p>🔌 Electric plug</p> <p>Drug dealer</p>	<p>😬🌬️ Face with open mouth plus dashing away</p> <p>Vaping or smoking</p>	<p>🚀 Rocket</p> <p>Strong drugs</p>
<p>🌬️ Dashing away</p> <p>Vaping</p>	<p>🌫️ Face with steam coming from nose</p> <p>May represent MDMA</p>	<p>🤮 Drooling face</p> <p>Ecstasy drug</p>

Personal safety and exploitation



We all want to keep our children safe. You've probably already talked to them about things like crossing the road safely. But have you spoken to them about how to stay safe from sexual abuse?

Clever Never Goes

We spend the first few years doing everything we can to protect our children, then we have to learn how to give them some independence.

Teaching children simply to avoid strangers doesn't work. Most strangers will help rather than harm children. Conversely, it is often people known to children that pose the greatest threat.

Clever Never Goes teaches children to recognise when someone (anyone) is asking them to go with them. It's about giving your child practical safety skills and confidence to engage with the outside world.

OUT WITH STRANGER DANGER IN WITH CLEVER NEVER GOES



TEACH THE CLEVER OPTION AT HOME

CLEVER NEVER GOES is the new, child-friendly lesson that teaches children how to stay safe from abduction when they are outside (e.g. walking to or from school), or online.

It's been created to help parents/guardians talk to their children about staying safe in a simple way.

Instead of creating a fear of people it teaches them to recognise the danger in a situation, regardless of who's involved.

THE RULE:

If anyone asks you to go - even someone that you know - if it hasn't been agreed, remember: CLEVER NEVER GOES



The **CLEVER NEVER GOES** rule means children shouldn't go anywhere with anyone - even if they know them - if it hasn't been agreed in advance by a parent or guardian.

And please remember, children learn through repetition so make sure you remind them regularly of **CLEVER NEVER GOES** when they're going outside or online.

For more information, ideas and resources to have that clever conversation go to: clevernevergoes.org

WHY CHANGE?

Since it was introduced in the 1970's, the 'stranger danger' message has been fundamentally flawed.

Most strangers will help rather than harm a child, and many people that do pose a risk to children are not strangers.

Furthermore, it demands that all strangers should be treated with suspicion, which breeds fear in our communities. This has led to children spending less time outdoors, fuelling a rise in obesity and mental health problems.

Add to this, children are spending more time online, increasing their risk of being groomed. Now is the time for a new approach that creates safer, happier and healthier children.

Backed by more than 1,000 schools across the UK, **CLEVER NEVER GOES** is more practical than stranger danger and gives children the skills and confidence to safely explore their outdoor and online worlds without fear. And gives parents the reassurance to let them.

**clever
never
goes** 

 **POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

Serving
Hampshire
Isle of Wight
Portsmouth
Southampton

This leaflet has been brought to you by the charity Action Against Abduction (registered no. 1081904) with the support of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire.

