



Safeguarding Update

Summer 2023 - 2024



WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999

Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

- Mrs L Bassett-Cross

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

- Mrs K O'Brien
- Mrs R Woodruff
- Mrs L Earl-Smith
- Mrs J Ireland
- Mr M Clifton
- Miss L Parker
- Mrs R Punchard
- Mrs Fyfe
- Mrs Tite

School Safeguarding Governor:

- Mrs P Alexander

You can contact the DSL team on:

dsl@woodstreet.surrey.sch.uk

dsl@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk

The Safeguarding Team oversee and coordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe. They regularly attend training to ensure their skills and knowledge are up-to-date.

For a copy of our school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, please visit the federated website: www.wvfs.surrey.sch.uk

EDIBLES

An important reminder on the dangers of 'Edibles'. Please be vigilant with any packages that may be delivered to home, or empty wrappers found in bags or clothing. Unfortunately, Edibles can be easily obtained off the internet in often very similar packaging to that of sweets that are safe and regularly sold in a wide range of shops.

What are Edibles?

Edibles is the term used to refer to any type of food products that contain cannabis (THC). Cannabis can be infused in chocolates, gummies and even juices! While these products are usually marketed towards adults, they pose a particular concern, as they are both visually appealing and taste good to children and adolescents.

What can happen if my child eats an Edible?

If your child consumes a product containing THC, they may develop symptoms such as:

- Excessive sleepiness
- Fast heart rate
- Difficulty breathing
- Feelings of anxiety, panic, or paranoia
- Nausea or vomiting
- Dizziness or weakness
- Poor co-ordination
- Seizures or coma (in rare cases)



For helpful advice or raising concerns about a child or friend, please click link below which will take you to the Talk to Frank website.

www.talktofrank.com/get-help/concerned-about-a-child

Remember, in an emergency call 999, PLEASE BE VIGILANT



There is a free 24/7 mental health crisis line for children aged from six years, young people and their families/carers who are in crisis. Please call

0800 915 4644 to talk with a professional who will provide advice, support and signposting to a range of community services. It's open all day and all night, seven days a week. The crisis line can be used by everyone aged 6 and above in Surrey and NE Hampshire.

5 ways to wellbeing

Step 1: Connect. Connecting with others can help us feel close to people and valued for who we are.

Step 2: Get active. Many people find that physical activity helps them maintain positive mental health.

Step 3: Take notice. Reminding yourself to take notice can help you to be aware of how you're feeling. It can help you understand what triggers your feelings of stress or anxiety.

Step 4: Keep learning. We're always learning new things – often without realising it. Feeling like you're learning and developing can boost your self-esteem.

Step 5: Give. There's been lots of research about the effects of participating in social and community life. Studies have shown that people who help others are more likely to rate themselves as happy.





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USEFUL ACRONYMS & VOCABULARY ABOUT SAFEGUARDING

DSL: Designated Safeguarding Lead

Early Help: "providing Early Help support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years".

TAC: Team Around a Child TAC (part of Early Help)

TAF: Team Around the Family (part of Early Help)

CP: Child Protection

CiN: Child in Need

DV: Domestic Violence

PREVENT: Part of the PREVENT Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

Channel: A programme that provides support to people identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

LADO: Local Authority LADO Designated Officer who deals with position of trust safeguarding issues

GBV: Gender based violence is directed at an individual based on his or her biological sex or gender identity

County Lines: County Lines is when illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries usually by children/vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs.

CME: Children Missing Education



CLICK BAIT

Around one in five headlines online are clickbait. Clickbait is content designed to influence you to visit a page, video, or image online. They usually have outrageous and misleading headlines, scripts, or images. This kind of content is hard enough for adults to resist. It can be even harder for children, who are still developing the skills to stay focused and consider the consequences of their actions.

Many platforms use a clickbait strategy to make money. This is because ad networks allow apps and websites to earn money from the number of views that their ads receive. Their business model encourages ad-supported networks to create clickbait content. The more shocking the story, the more views they collect, and the more money they make.

This can also spread misinformation, fake news, and propaganda.

There's still plenty that can be done though to limit its influence – especially in relation to young people, who are often more susceptible to sensationalist headlines. The #WakeUpWednesday guide details the potential hazards around clickbait and has expert tips for avoiding them.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.gov.uk.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CLICKBAIT

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users' emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child-friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

10 TIPS TO BUILD A MUSCLE

CLICK HERE

YOU WON BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENS!

CLICK HERE

A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, social and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss, scars, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory 'yoga ball' articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvier online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as '8 Facts You Won't Believe Are True'. Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

Advice for Parents & Educators

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, Techradar and Wired, among others.

#WakeUpWednesday

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