

Safeguarding Newsletter

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WELCOME

to Tapton School's
Safeguarding
Newsletter.

My aim is bring you the latest information about current issues that affect our ability to safeguard the Tapton School Community.

Kath Tabani

Instagram Updates

In case you missed it, in July Instagram made a couple of significant updates to the app, specifically to prevent bullying. As with all social media, artificial intelligence is used to detect certain content, particularly harmful content. A new feature has been rolled out which gives anybody posting such content a moment to reflect, for example if somebody posts "that photo makes you look so ugly" they will get a warning, 'Are you sure you want to post this?'

It may seem quite minor but I think this is a positive move forward, after all how many times do we repeat the message, 'think before you post'?

[Read more](#)

PEER ON PEER ABUSE

A new blog from OFSTED discusses the issues around Peer-on-peer abuse which includes, but is not limited to:

- physical and sexual abuse
- sexual harassment and violence
- emotional harm
- on and offline bullying
- teenage relationship abuse

In this blog Sean Harford, National Director for Education, and Yvette Stanley, National Director for Social Care, discuss peer-on-peer abuse: what it is, what schools should be doing when it happens and how we've trained our inspectors to recognise it.

It can even include grooming children for sexual and criminal exploitation.

It's hard to say just how widespread a problem it is. But we know that there's extensive evidence of peer-on-peer abuse in the context of both sexual and criminal exploitation. In autumn last year, the NSPCC announced a 29% increase in children seeking help from [Childline](#) due to peer-on-peer sexual abuse. The issue has, understandably, been scrutinised in the media recently.

Read the full story [here..](#)

Coincidentally a new bulletin from [SSCB](#) also addresses this important subject. They say that young people can be affected by domestic abuse if they have grown up witnessing it or they can experience abuse in their own relationships. Studies have found that 40% of teenagers know girls whose boyfriends pressured them to have sex, and **42% know girls whose boyfriends have hit them**. Usually women and girls are the victims and men and boys are the abusers but it can happen to boys as well, and is just as common in same sex relationships. Since 2013 the definition of domestic abuse includes 16 & 17 yr olds, for both victims and young people causing harm.

More information can be found [here...](#)

NEED-TO-KNOW: IS MY CHILD READY TO BE LEFT ALONE?

There is no legal age at which children may be left home alone, but parents can be prosecuted for neglect if it puts them at risk of injury or suffering.

This guide from the [NSPCC](#) gives sound advice and useful tips to help parents decide in which situations they may leave their children home alone, and what they need to do to ensure their safety and wellbeing. It explains the risks of leaving babies and younger children unattended, and provides helpful advice on what qualities and experience to look for when choosing a babysitter or appropriate childcare. There is a quiz for parents and children which explores how the child feels about being left at home alone and what they might do in different scenarios, such as a power cut or if someone came to the door. Parents can fill in the 'while I'm away' pull-out with times and contact numbers and stick it on the fridge before they go out.

Also useful for any service or professional offering parenting advice to new parents and those caring for young children or teenagers.

[Download the booklet here](#)

State of the nation 2019: children and young people's wellbeing

A report on wellbeing in children and young people including psychological health in teenage girls.

In October 2018 Prime Minister Theresa May committed to publishing a State of the Nation report to integrate the available evidence on the state of children and young people's wellbeing, and to provide an accessible narrative on current evidence to guide discourse and action. This report seeks to build on the strength of work happening across children's organisations, charities, and academia to understand the current state of children's satisfaction with their lives and the range of experiences they face. The report has now been published and is available on the governments website [here](#)

GAMING: WHAT PARENTS AND CARERS NEED TO KNOW

Gaming is a popular pastime for both young people and adults across the world. Many games have adopted an interactive online element- whether it's playing against other users, chatting or making purchases.

For most children and young people, gaming is a fun way to spend time with friends and create opportunities to develop teamwork, concentration skills and problem-solving.

[ThinkUKnow](#) (CEOP) have written a comprehensive article for parents and carers regarding gaming including chatting, risks, tips etc.

You can view the full article [here](#):

You can also find [session plans and activities](#) designed to help children:

- Identify the type of tactics offenders use on live streaming platforms
- Identify and respond to pressure and manipulation online
- Develop the skills to think critically about the people they meet

Deal with issues that may make them vulnerable when live such as low self-esteem and confidence

You can also access articles that will help you to start important conversations with young people about what to think about before live streaming:

[Live streaming \(for 11-13\)](#)

[Live streaming \(for 14+\)](#)

Parents who want to engage in their child's online activity will appreciate this [short guide to live streaming](#).

It explains:

- What live streaming is and why it's so popular
- What makes it risky for young people
- How they can help their child stay safe while live streaming