

SAFER



SCHOOLS

June 2022

Welcome to June's newsletter. We hope you all had a very happy and safe half term break. As usual this newsletter has been designed to support and advise Parents and Carers of **both** Primary and Secondary school children, and therefore trust your personal judgement to share what you feel will be **relevant** information with your child/s.

Kids Walk: Safe and healthy journeys for all children



Join in on **Wednesday 22nd June 2022**, when thousands of school children aged 4 -11 will take part in Kids Walk – a short, supervised walk to share important road safety messages.

Kids Walk is supported by Aardman and Shaun the Sheep. Shaun is helping children call on their grown ups to make their streets safer and healthier for everyone. This short video will explain more about the campaign <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIWZWmnjR4k>



It is every child's right to be able to walk in their community without fear of traffic. Children of all ages are at risk of being hurt or killed when walking near roads. On average, six children are killed or seriously injured on roads in Britain every day – that's equivalent to a whole class of children every single week.

Kids Walk is a great way to inspire and engage children about the dangers they face and raise awareness among parents and the wider community about the protect children on roads. It's also a great opportunity to fundraise for Brake and support families who have lost loved ones in road crashes.

Click on the following link for more information or to sign up to be part of this campaign:
[Join Brake's Kids Walk](#)

E-scooters and School legislation

We know we have covered e-scooters on many occasions, however our communities continue to see the misuse and ASB behaviours associated with riding e-scooters illegally. In this newsletter we continue to educate the community by informing you that schools have a specific legislation to deal with persistent offenders. Please see below:

Section 94 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 provides the authority to confiscate property as a lawful, disciplinary penalty. What you need to know:

- Schools can confiscate a pupil's property as a disciplinary sanction.
- The confiscation must be reasonable.
- Retention and disposal of the property must be reasonable – i.e. returned to parents, not the student.

A reminder: While e-scooters are legally available to purchase, it's currently against the law to ride a privately-owned e-scooter in any public place in the UK. This includes roads, pavements, parks or town centres. The only place a privately-owned e-scooter can be used is on private land. This is because e-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs) so they are treated as motor vehicles. As such, if they are used on a road, pavement or public place they are subject to the same legal requirements as any motor vehicle (taxed, insured and the rider holds a full driving licence). We would also ask anyone using an e-scooter legally i.e. on private land, to carefully consider their safety before doing so. **All riders should wear a safety helmet.**



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Weapons Amnesty success

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More than 60 knives and other weapons were handed in to police as part of a countywide amnesty. The items, including large knives machetes and swords, were handed in at amnesty bins in Thorpe Wood Police Station in Peterborough and Parkside in Cambridge. Some of the 65 weapons are illegal to own due to changes to the Offensive Weapons Act last year banning items such as knuckledusters, extendable batons, curved swords and zombie knives. Even if kept on private property.

The weapons amnesty formed part of the national 'Operation Sceptre' week of action. A broad range of policing activity took place during the week, including a large mobile screen, paid for by Proceeds of Crime Act funding, that promoted the amnesty and displayed key knife crime messages. In addition to this, there were increased patrols in 'hotspot' areas, targeting of people who are believed to carry weapons, engagement with schools and work with retailers who sell knives. The week was supported by officers, Specials and police cadets.

Inspector Matt Snow said: "I would like to thank everyone who took the opportunity to dispose of weapons during the amnesty, as well as all the officers, staff and Specials who supported the week of action.

"By disposing of weapons people have helped us to make the county even safer.

"Tackling knife crime is a priority for the constabulary. The regular amnesties form an important part of those efforts, as well as ongoing work in schools throughout termtime, as we aim to make Cambridgeshire an even safer place."

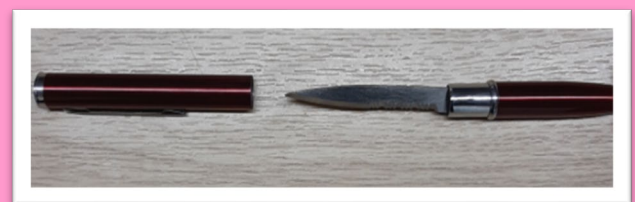
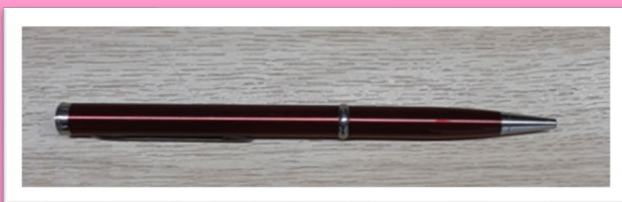
Visit [the dedicated area of our website](#) for more information on the Offensive Weapons Act and to access a list of the banned items.

#LivesNotKnives



Disguised knives: awareness for parents/carers and school staff

The police are urging parents/carers and school staff to be vigilant and aware of various styles of knives which are adapted to be as disguised pens. An example is shown in the images below. This 'knife' disguised as a pen was taken off a school pupil who reported that it was offered as a 'free item' on the wish website with only postage and packing to pay.





The Dark Web Explained: Essential guide for parent and Carers



The internet has changed in many ways since it first became publicly accessible. One of the most controversial developments is the growth of the so-called dark web, and it is understandable if you have concerns about your child exploring what could be dangerous territory for them. Being aware of the basic facts about these parts of the internet can help you to have open and realistic conversations with your child, especially if you are concerned about them using the Dark Web.

The National Crime Agency have collaborated with [The Children's Society](#) and [Marie Collins Foundation](#) to produce a host of useful supportive information and resources to help parents and carers to navigate around the mystifying world of the dark web and to enable adults to feel more confident and better equipped to have conversations with young people who are using the Dark Web.

The Dark Web explained consists of a short informational video and a separate fact sheet which will help you to:

- understand what the Dark Web is
- know why and how some young people might access the Dark Web
- feel confident having conversations and supporting young people who are accessing the Dark Web

Please follow this link to access the video and fact sheet:

thinkuknow.co.uk/globalassets/professional/resources/dark-web/parents--carers-factsheet.pdf

Further information and support can be found by following this link:

thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/dark-web-explained/

Threatening Behaviour Online and the Law

Tik Tok is a massively popular app used by millions of young people. It is a great opportunity for them to socialise and have fun whilst online. Unfortunately, like most other social media platforms, it is open for abuse and sadly many young TikTok users have become targets of some form of cyberbullying.



TikTok have addressed this issue by offering a range of protection settings on their app. More information can be found at www.tiktok.com/safety/resources/anti-bully.

It is important to remember that cyberbullying can be dealt with as a criminal offence where online communications may be covered by the [Harassment Act of 1997](#), the [Malicious Communications Act of 1988](#) or the [Communications Act of 2003](#). Separate legislation may also apply if blackmail has been threatened or if any indecent images have been shared online without the consent of those involved. Anyone who receives threatening or bullying messages online is advised to keep a record of the communications for evidence, This can be done by either printing the messages off or taking a screenshot on the phone (or use the 'snipping tool' attachment on the computer).

Parents and Carers should also be reminded that Children should be aged 13 or over to hold a TikTok account. Please click on the following link for a Parents/Carers safety guide for TikTok: www.youtube.com/watch?v=xOUVNu6QjPY

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