



An Active Learning Trust School

Our ref: JW/SK  
29 April 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Nationally there are concerns about the possession, distribution and showing of sexually explicit images by young people.

We have worked hard to educate our students about the importance of remaining safe on the internet and about the dangers of sexting.

When it comes to young people, the police are reluctant to criminalise acts of misadventure and naivety. However their priority is and always will be to protect the vulnerable. PC Kurt Allen is working with all local Fenland schools to highlight the seriousness of sexting. We have been asked to help by conveying the message below:

*"On invite my team and I have visited your school over the course of this year after receiving complaints from victims around the possession and distribution of sexually explicit photographs of students. The school and my team have worked very closely together to provide the continued safeguarding of the victims and identifying the culprits. It seems that this practice is still happening according to recent reports, so please speak with your child and explain that the possession, showing and/or the distribution of an indecent image of a child (person under 18) is a crime under the Protection of Children Act 1978.*

*It is important to point out that even though some may see this as a "joke" the impact on the victim is huge, long lasting and extremely upsetting, it places them in real danger of sexual exploitation. Such is the seriousness of the offences guidance suggests a maximum prison sentence be set at 10 years on conviction. I will be direct here; now that previous warnings have gone largely unheeded this should be considered as a final warning in the interests of crime prevention and the continued safeguarding of young people. Should the police become aware of any more like incidents detailed above robust action will be taken which will consist of early arrest and seizure of communications devices." – PC312 Kurt ALLEN, March/Chatteris PST*

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact your child's Year office in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Wing", written in a cursive style.

Mr J Wing  
Executive Principal