### SAFEGUARDING - SUMMER 2024

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter from The Levett School Safeguarding Team.

The aim, as always, is to bring you all the latest, relevant help and advice on issues we feel are of importance. In this issue, we focus on the latest NCA alert that has been reported recently in the news and social media. A reminder of dangers of 'edibles'.

Should you require any help or advice during the holiday, the following staff will be contactable between 9am & 2pm on their respective phone numbers.

#### Miss Kelly Safeguarding Officer (Students on the edge of crime)



07756870081 Week commencing 29th July 2024

# Miss Johnston Director of Safeguarding and Behaviour



07756865849 Week commencing -22nd July, 5th, 19th and 26th August 2024

#### Miss Short Safeguarding Officer (Families)



07756865844 Week commencing 12th August 2024

## URGENT

### Safeguarding Alert -

Financially Motivated Sexual Extortion

Globally there has been an increase in reports of children and young people being victims of financially motivated sexual extortion, often referred to in the media as 'sextortion'. The National Crime Agency's CEOP Education have issued an alert in education settings across the UK in response to this threat. The alert will help professionals/carers to:

Recognise and understand financially motivated sexual extortion
Raise awareness and help seeking behaviours amongst children and young people
Give suitable messaging and support to parents and carers
Support victims of financially motivated sexual extortion

Financially motivated sexual extortion involves children and young people being forced into paying money or meeting another financial demand (such as purchasing a pre-paid gift card) after an offender has threatened to release nudes or semi-nudes of them. It is a type of online blackmail and a form of child sexual abuse. Financially motivated sexual extortion is usually carried out by organised crime groups based overseas who are typically motivated by money. These groups target all ages and genders however, a large proportion of cases have involved male victims aged 14-18.

Please click the links for an essential guide of advice and sextortion explained more in depth, together with tips on having difficult conversations and how to report incidents.

<u>Safeguarding Alert: Financially Motivated Sexual Extortion - Ineqe Safeguarding Group</u>

### **EDIBLES - URGENT REMINDER**

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

For lots of helpful advice or raising concerns about a child or friend, please click link below <u>ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS | FRANK (TALKTOFRANK.COM)</u>. REMEMBER, IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 999

### **CLICK BAIT - EXPLAINED**

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. T

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 done to limit its influence on young people. The #WakeUpWednesday guide details the potential hazards around clickbait and has expert tips for avoiding them.

