



SAFER SCHOOLS



May 2023

Welcome to May's newsletter. We hope you all had a very happy and safe Easter break and that you have some fun and exciting plans ahead for the Coronation.

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.

Operation Sceptre: Knife Crime awareness week of action



Operation Sceptre (#operationsceptre) is a National Campaign to target knife related crime by raising awareness amongst communities and to encourage **everyone** to understand the risks and how you can help to reduce these offences and keep people safe.

During the Week of Action, which starts **w/c Monday 15th to Sunday 21st May 2023** or over coming weeks, your child may receive a presentation in school which highlights the risks and consequences and how they can keep themselves and others safe by reporting any concerns. There will also be advice, updates and key messages posted via the Cambridgeshire Constabulary Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. A key message that Cambridgeshire Constabulary will focus upon is to raise awareness on **Joint Enterprise**.

Joint Enterprise is a UK LAW that allows more than one person to be charged and convicted of a crime, irrespective of who committed it. What this means is that an individual will be considered as a guilty party of a crime that another person committed where there is sufficient evidence to prove that they were working together or that they had awareness that a crime was intended to occur.

Examples of how you could be found guilty of a violent criminal offence under Joint Enterprise are as follows:

- If you were part of a group and someone in that group harms someone with a knife or other weapon.
- If you were supporting the attacker's actions by verbal and/or physical encouragement.
- If you knew that the person who made the attack was going to start violence but you did nothing to prevent it (such as inform the police/school staff/other authorities).

Further guidance for parents and carers in relation to knife harm can be found by downloading this link from The Ben Kinsella Trust benkinsella.org.uk/resources-for-parents/

If you know someone is carrying a knife you can report this anonymously by following this link: how-to-report-a-crime/

Top Tips for Being Cyber Resilient

Do not click any suspicious links – this includes any from accounts you may know or recognise.

Report scams to the appropriate authorities.

Create a strong password and review it regularly.

Remember to back up and update your device often.

Regularly scan your devices for viruses or malware.

If you aren't sure or don't know the sender, don't reply.

Don't enter or give your personal information, account details or card details on login sites you are sent to via links.

Pay attention to misspellings or grammatical errors in official messages/emails – this is usually an indicator.

Always ignore accounts representing companies, organisations or public figures who are not verified.

Never send money to anyone in order to 'receive a gift, prize or winnings'.



Call: 101

Telephone: 18001 101

Visit: cambs.police.uk

Follow: CambsCops

Subscribe: eCops.org.uk

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Nitrous Oxide Canisters: Parent and Carers awareness

We have recently covered this subject in a previous newsletter, however, sadly there is a need to highlight this issue again.

Nationally, Police forces are receiving increasing reports of the harmful effects caused from Nitrous Oxide misuse. In addition to the widely reported risks of accidents while under the influence of this gas, there are increasing hospital reports of young people with serious nerve damage that may be lasting.

Other risks include: Slowing of body and brain response, headaches and dizziness.

Nitrous Oxide is a colourless gas that is commonly found in pressurised metal cannisters and is usually inhaled using a balloon. It is often referred to as laughing gas, balloons, smart whips or NOS.

It is more dangerous inhaling directly from the canister as too much NOS can make you feel faint, lose consciousness or suffocate. It can cause spasm of the throat muscle and stop a person from breathing.

There is more information for young people and their families and carers at www.talktofrank.com.

The link below provides more information and advice: [N20-briefing-for-professionals-v1.0-DrugWatch-version.pdf \(michaellinnell.org.uk\)](http://N20-briefing-for-professionals-v1.0-DrugWatch-version.pdf (michaellinnell.org.uk))

For local advice, information and support around Nitrous oxide misuse please contact the local commissioned treatment services:-

Cambridgeshire Young People's Drug/alcohol Service- CASUS 01480 445316 [Service detail | CPFT NHS Trust](#)

Cambridgeshire Adult Drug and Alcohol Service- Change Grow Live (CGL) 0300 5550101
www.changegrowlive.org/drug-alcohol-service-cambridgeshire

Peterborough Drug and Alcohol Service (All Age)- Change Grow Live (CGL ASPIRE) 01733 895624
www.changegrowlive.org/aspire-recovery-peterborough

If you have concerns that someone may have inhaled these, please contact **111 for medical advice or 999 in an emergency**



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ECOPS –Local Policing Neighbourhood Alerts

This year, Cambridgeshire Constabulary are celebrating the 20-year anniversary of eCops.

eCops began back in 2003 when an East Chesterton Sergeant wanted a way to keep local residents informed and up to date with what police were doing in their area. It started as a simple email to all East Chesterton residents and has developed and grown over the past 20 years to an advanced system used by around 19,000 people across the county.

It is free and easy to sign up, and subscribers can register according to their location and interests, reducing information overload and ensuring that they receive targeted alerts that are focused and relevant to them. Messages can include crime news, information about crime happening locally, crime prevention advice, details about local incidents and appeals for help in reducing crime in the county. Members can also reply to alerts, providing a quick and easy two-way communication between yourself and your local officers. You can tell us about your concerns to help us police your neighbourhoods effectively.

As a parent / carer to a young person in Cambridgeshire, we recommend that everyone subscribes to eCops to be more aware of crime happening in your area, therefore being in a better position to protect yourself and your family against crime.

Sign up in seconds at www.ecops.org.uk



Kids Safety Net Workshop : Free online workshop for Parents and Carers

We have recently introduced our readers to the NSPCC KIDS SAFETY NET campaign which is a multi-agency campaign for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough supporting parents and carers to help keep children safe in their online world.

Partners have come together for a six-month campaign with the aim of supporting parents and carers to enable you to feel confident in talking about online safety to your children and young people.

Here is a reminder of further dates that are available:

Wednesday 03rd May 7pm to 8pm

Thursday 11th May 4pm to 5pm



For further information or to book your place on this event please follow this link: [Kids Safety Net Workshop Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

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Subscribe: [eCops.org.uk](http://ecops.org.uk)

We would love to hear your feedback & comments.

You can contact the team via our email

SchoolsandCYP@cambs.police.uk

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