



SAFER



SCHOOLS

March 2023

Welcome to March's newsletter which highlights key messages and advice and support for you and your family. Parents and Carers are reminded that this newsletter is for both Primary and Secondary school children, and therefore trust your judgement to share what you feel is relevant information for your family.

Antisocial Behaviour – What can I do as a Parent/Carer?

Spring is upon us with warmer & lighter evenings!! Your child may be wanting to spend more time out of the house socialising with their friends. If this is the case, then it might be a good opportunity to talk to your child about their behaviour whilst they are out in the community. Set some boundaries and ensure that they have a good understanding of what is expected of them.

Before they go out, ask:

- What they are planning to do?
- Where they are going?
- Who they are going out with?
- What time, and how they will be getting home?



It is important not to underestimate the impact of peer pressure on a child's behaviour, and what might first appear to be harmless fun for them, could quickly and easily escalate into criminal behaviour. Talk to your child about the consequences of becoming involved in ASB and the impact that it could have on their future life if they receive a criminal record. It is important that they understand the effect their behaviour could be having on other people living within the community, especially the elderly or vulnerable residents who live alone and might be easily intimidated.

Remind them:

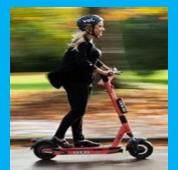
- To think about what they are doing whilst they are out
- Not to cause distress or annoyance to others
- Not to cause damage to property
- Not to put themselves or others in danger



Remember: Young people can also be victims of ASB so it important to make sure they know how to keep themselves safe and what they would need to do if they need the assistance of an adult.

E-Scooters – reminder about the Law

Unfortunately, we are still receiving high levels of reports surrounding dangerous and inconsiderate use of E-Scooters, resulting in serious injuries to pedestrians and other road users. Therefore, we politely request that you read the leaflet on the last page of this newsletter, which highlights the laws and requirements for riding E-Scooters and ensure you and your family remain safe and are not breaking the law.



Call: 101
 Telephone: 18001 101
 Visit: cambs.police.uk
 Follow: CambsCops
 Subscribe: eCops.org.uk

#SaferCambs



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

Keeping children safe online – FREE virtual workshop for parents/carers

We would like to introduce you to the **NSPCC Kids Safety Net** 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, (starting April 2023) with the aim of supporting parents, carers and relevant professionals to enable them to feel confident in talking about online safety to children and young people.

The internet is a great place to learn, create, chat with friends and family as well as accessing information and explore fun apps and games. But exploring comes with risks, so it's vital we know how to help and support our children and young people to be safe online.

The **Kids Safety Net** campaign has organised a series of 45-minute workshops which are **FREE**, via Zoom, at various times to fit around your busy lives. The first round of workshops are taking place on the following dates and more will be scheduled throughout the year:

- Wednesday April 5th 2023 at 18:00
- Thursday April 13th 2023 at 19:00
- Tuesday April 18th 2023 at 19:00
- Tuesday April 25th 2023 at 18:00
- Wednesday May 3rd 2023 at 19:00



The workshop will:

- Help you understand how children and young people experience the online world
- Show you resources and tools that could help keep them safe
- Empower you to guide them on their journey

To register your interest please email gail.sayles@nspcc.org.uk

For more information about the Kids safety net campaign please follow this link: [NSPCC Kids](#)

KOOTH: Digital Mental Health Support Service



Kooth is a digital mental health support service for young people **aged 11 to 25** where they can access online support from a team of experienced counsellors. Access is **free** and there are a range of tools, such as activities and moderated chat forums that can be used to enhance young people's mental health and wellbeing.

Please click on the link and see how Kooth can help, support and advise:

www.kooth.com/

Call: 101

Telephone: 18001 101

Visit: cambs.police.uk

Follow: CambsCops

Subscribe: eCops.org.uk

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Child car seats & belt safety: The Law

Is Your Child
SAFE?

The UK law requires all children who are travelling in a vehicle (front or back seat passengers) to have the appropriate safety restraints. It is the driver's responsibility to ensure the safety of children travelling in their vehicle, and those who are caught by the police with unsuitable or inappropriate fitted car seats run the risk of receiving a **fine of £500 as a maximum penalty**.

Therefore, it is essential that you understand the legal requirements and the correct way to install a child car seat. Children must be secured into a child seat when travelling by car until they are **12 years old or 135 centimetres tall**. There are few exemptions to this and the following link from the UK government will explain further [child-car-seats-the-rules](#)

Children aged 12 or older, or taller than 135 centimetres, may use an adult seat belt or an appropriate child restraint, although it is safer to use a booster seat to 150 centimetres tall. For more advice on seat belt laws please follow this link [seat-belts-law](#)

ROSPA (The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) have a dedicated webpage which provides a host of useful advice and tips on choosing and fitting the right car seat [childcarseats.org.uk/](#) and **THINK** is a resourceful website covering all aspects of road safety [www.think.gov.uk/](#)

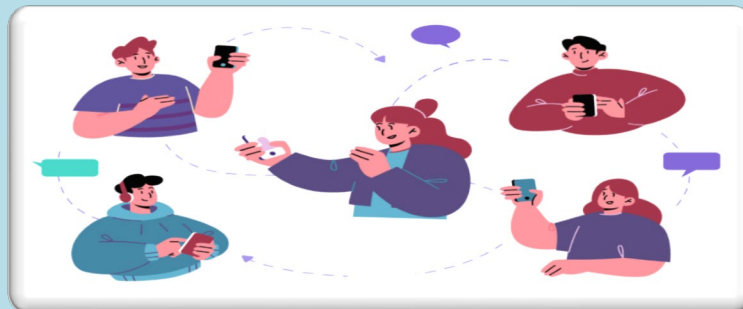
Parenting guide to Wizz App

It has come to our attention that a social networking app called Wizz has become particularly appealing to children and young people due to its simplicity of use allowing younger aged user to create an account, as well as lack of parental controls.

Wizz is a free social networking app that enables users to chat live online with strangers from around the world. It features a swiping system whereby users can browse through profiles to choose someone to chat with, similar to popular dating apps for adults, such as Tinder.

The following link will provide you with further information about the Wizz App as well as highlighting potential safeguarding risks and safety advice on how to keep your children and young people safe on friend-finding apps

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2022/11/25/hipal-walkie-talkie-and-wizz-social-apps/#2fe1f87f575abfd04>



We understand that buying an e-scooter can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers.

However, the current law is clear

You can buy one but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land.

Why is this?

E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements.

All details can be found on the following Government website:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/power-d-transporters/information-sheet-guidance-on-powered-transporters>

What happens if I've been stopped by Police?

The Police will advise you of the current law about how to use an e-scooter legally and ask you to take your e-scooter home. They may however still penalise you depending on the nature and gravity of the offence.

We understand the public's support for environmentally friendly modes of transport. We want to work with the public to make sure the roads are safe for everyone.

The UK Government is currently taking part in 'Future Transport Zone' trials for e-scooter hire, with a view to making them legal to use on the roads.

Check out the gov.uk website or enquire with your local authority for a trial closest to you.