

HOLBROOK ACADEMY



Headteacher : Dr Simon Letman BA, MA, EdD
Deputy Head : Nicola Shelley

2nd March 2017

Dear Parent / Carer,

We were visited today by Liam Gilks, a Cybercrime Investigator from Suffolk Constabulary, who has asked us to pass on to parents some information with regards to online communication and 'sexting'.

As you may be aware from recent news articles, Suffolk is part of a national strategy to raise awareness amongst teenagers of the implications of sending nude images of themselves to others. The law stipulates that anyone under the age of 18 years old who either **requests a nude image** or **sends a nude image**, even if it is of themselves, is breaking the law. If such incidents come to light in schools, we have to report it to the police.

The Cybercrime Unit's intention is not to criminalise young people, but to educate them by talking through the implications of their actions. Up to 80% of indecent images of young people shared on 'Snapchat' end up online, where anyone can view them. As you can appreciate, this is a frightening statistic and one that we want to protect our young people from.

As a school, we now have our own Link Officer with the Cybercrime Unit, who will be a regular visitor to the school. He will be dealing with any serious online issues, as well as giving advice to both students and parents on how to make the right choices when it comes to being safe online.

If you have any concerns, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Cooke
Assistant Headteacher - Pastoral