

3rd May 2024

Supported by the Normanton Freeston Foundation

FOCUS ON STAYING SAFE AND POSITIVE WELLBEING

SEXTORTION

The National Crime Agency has issued an alert following a considerable increase in global cases of financially motivated sexual extortion – a type of online blackmail widely known as 'sextortion'.

Sextortion involves people being forced into paying money or meeting another financial demand, after an offender has threatened to release nude or semi-nude photos of them. This could be a real photo taken by the victim, or a fake image created of them by the offender.

All age groups and genders are being targeted, but a large proportion of cases have involved male victims aged between 14-18. 91% of victims in UK sextortion cases dealt with by the Internet Watch Foundation in 2023 were male.

Advice to parents and carers if their child says that someone is trying to trick, threaten or blackmail them online:

- **Don't pay, do stop contact and block:** you may be tempted to pay, but there is no guarantee that this will stop the threats. As the offender's motive is to get money, once you have shown you can pay, they will likely ask for more and blackmail may continue. If you have paid, don't panic but don't pay anything more. Help your child to stop all communication with the offender and block them on any accounts that they have been contacted on.
- **Avoid deleting anything:** try not to delete anything that could be used as evidence such as messages, images, telephone numbers, and bank account details.
- **Report to the police or CEOP:** call 101 or 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm to your child. Or you can use the [CEOP Safety Centre](#) to report any online blackmail attempts.

Adults can also support young people in getting their images removed using Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation's [Report Remove tool](#), the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's [Take It Down](#) tool, and reporting to the platform or app it has been shared on. Further information for parents and carers on how they can support their child can be found in the CEOP Education's [online blackmail](#) article.

RUGBY UPDATE

Commiserations to the Yr 7 rugby team who lost in the National semi finals to a strong side from Cardiff. However, with a 3rd of the team not playing rugby before joining the academy, it's been an amazing achievement to reach the last 4 schools in England and Wales. We as an academy and Trust are extremely proud of the boys efforts.

In fact all three teams qualifying for the nationals and the Yr10 being crowned Yorkshire Schools Rugby League Champions, proves it's been an amazing year for boys rugby league at the academy. This is why we continue to be one of the strongest schools in the country for rugby league.



WAKEFIELD LA FIXED PENALTY NOTICE CHANGES

We have received information from the Local Authority that the penalty notice fines for Wakefield will be changing from 19th August 2024. Full information is available on our website, [read more about this here.](#)

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

This week we met with last year's Bronze Duke Of Edinburgh's Award winners as they embark on their next big challenge...their GCSEs! These students have shown determination, resilience, and built new skills to complete this internationally recognised award and deserved a morning of celebrations, certificates, badges and breakfast! We are sure these young people will go onto complete the next stage of the programme and are planning on working towards the Silver Award once at college & sixth form, but now we have another 60 students in Yr 10 ready to work towards their own Bronze Award this year. Good luck everyone!

