



ONLINE SAFETY @ HARRIS.

April 2025

Issue 4



“(36%) of young people reported constant contact with friends online via platforms, devices, gaming or social media”

WHO - September 2024

ADOLESCENCE - A NETFLIX SMASH...



24.3 million views in just 4 days.. why has Adolescence been such a compelling watch. Is it the exposing of modern day teens and the world parents are living in? Is it the darkness that lurks beneath devices that people feel a need to understand more about? Either way it has exposed a generational shift and made the age divide appear even greater with teens and young people creating their own languages online to stay ahead of device controls. Of course it's a big leap to go from swiping to stabbing - but the drip feed addictive affect of social media and online chats allows content and conversation to be even more accessible. The digital skills our young people are developing from as young as 6 are setting us on a course to be a device heavy, AI leading landscape. With AI being used from job applications to recipe research and now in schools, it is important for us to teach our children thinking skills that evolve with the tech. It's not coming; it's already here. In today's issue we look at the language online, the government's efforts, the media & the future at Harris.

Netflix's Adolescence just pulled back the curtain on something every parent, educator and mentor needs to know – the hidden language of emojis. Online, young people are communicating in ways that most adults completely miss. What looks innocent could have a much darker meaning.

Humberside Police

IN THE MEDIA...

If you're looking to improve your own tech health and be a role model at home; "How to break up with your Smart Phone" is a great guide to healthy boundaries and using tech for good.

For your next Netflix fix, "Instagram's worst con artist" this series explores how unscrupulous influencers can exploit misinformation for their own gain.

BBC Radio 4 have recorded an interesting listen on toxic masculinity and the latest Netflix hit: Adolescence.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programme/s/m00290bg>

Follow us on Instagram @HarrisOnlineSafety

Research Says..

<https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Internet-Matters-Look-At-Me-Report-1.pdf>

Internet Matters conducted research called "Look at Me" around online grooming and what motivated young people to engage with strangers or unknown people online. This research dispels some of the myths that parents "think" are happening in their households and shines light on areas to approach. For example - "Despite what adults believe, young people in this anonymous survey told us that sharing nudes is not 'endemic.' It is most prevalent among those aged 15 and over, 17% of whom said they had shared a nude or sexual photo of themselves. The conversation around this in schools is starting earlier now to prepare young people.

Email us OnlineSafety@harris.covmat.org

THE LANGUAGE OF TEEN'S - WHAT ARE WE LOOKING AT?

Parents are urged to be aware of the language and meanings in their children's online messages

Police have revealed that it's not just emojis that have secret meanings, there are also many codewords, hashtags and acronyms that all have hidden meanings that are often unknown to parents



Harmless acronyms

AFAIK	As far as I know
CBA	Can't be arsed
DWBH	Don't worry, be happy
FWIW	For what it's worth
HAND	Have a nice day
RAK	Random act of kindness
Parring	Disrespectful
Cray	Crazy
Dench	Fantastic/cool
Preeing	Looking at someone

WHAT ARE THE GOVERNMENT DOING ABOUT THIS?



Children will be protected from the growing threat of predators generating AI images and from online sexual abuse as the UK becomes the first country in the world to create new AI sexual abuse offences.

AI tools are being used to generate child sexual abuse images in a number of sickening ways. Home Secretary Yvette Cooper has revealed the UK will be the first country in the world to:

- make it illegal to possess, create or distribute AI tools designed to generate child sexual abuse material (CSAM), punishable by up to 5 years in prison
- make it illegal for anyone to possess AI 'paedophile manuals' which teach people how to use AI to sexually abuse children, punishable by up to 3 years in prison.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britains-leading-the-way-protecting-children-from-online-predators>

WHERE DO I TURN IF I HAVE A CONCERN?

So, with all this information & knowledge - where do you turn if you do find something? Please ensure you alert your Designated Safeguarding Lead (lucy.hood@harris.covmat.org), your Deputy Safeguarding Lead (John.Naylor@harris.covmat.org) or any of your Year Heads who can signpost you to a range of resources and support. Outside of the Harris Family there is a wealth of support and knowledge within Warwickshire:

CEOP - Are a part of the national crime agency and offer support, advice and tips on how to report, where to report and how to talk to your teens about these issues. They also have a campaign called #AskTheAwkward and a parent guide on how to approach topics without it escalating into a battle.

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/global-assets/parents--carers/asktheawkward-a-parent--carers-intro-updated.pdf>

EMOJI'S EXPLAINED

FROM SECRET SLANG TO CODED MESSAGES, EMOJIS ARE OFTEN USED TO CONVEY MEANINGS THAT PARENTS MIGHT NOT RECOGNISE. UNDERSTANDING THESE HIDDEN MESSAGES CAN HELP BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN GENERATIONS AND ENSURE OPEN, INFORMED CONVERSATIONS.

DRUGS RELATED

Cocaine	Cocaine	Cocaine	Cannabis	Cannabis	Cannabis	Joint
MDMA	MDMA	Heroin	Heroin	Meth	Mushroom	Ketamine
Gassed	Lit	Dealer	Dealer	Dealer		

VIOLENCE

Weapon	Weapon	Weapon	Crime	Crime	Murder	Murder
Threat	Locked Up	Snitch				

SEX

Penis	Penis	Genitalia	Bum	Vagina	Vagina	Nudes
Porn	Orgasm	Orgasm	Oral Sex	Lust	Lust	Anal Sex
Intercourse	Fingering	Playful	Horny	Lets Hump		

SELF HARM

Cutting	Cutting	Burning	Trapped	Sad	Down	Anxious	Not Eating
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EXTREMISM

Neo Nazi	Neo Nazi	Neo Nazi	IS Extremist	IS Extremist	Far Right		
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INCEL CULTURE

Red Pill	Black Pill	Hopeless	Emotional Detachment	Men are Kings	Extreme Masculinity	Power	Older woman
Lone Wolf	Incel	Incel	Incel	Anti-Women	Anti-Women	Anti-Women	

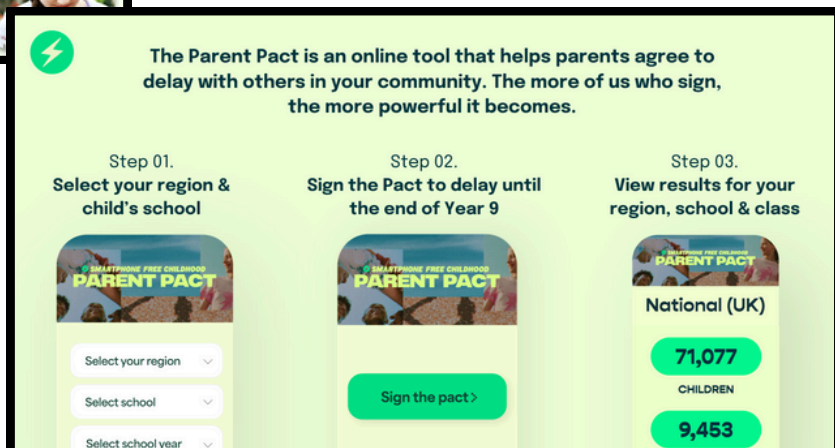
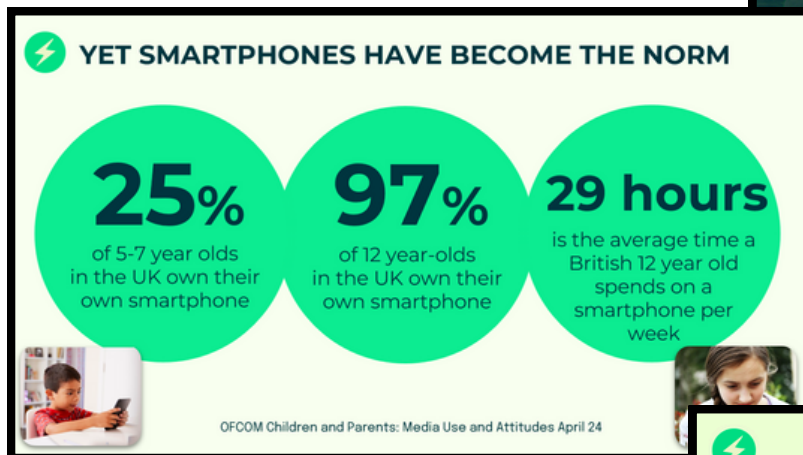
HEARTS

Love	Horny	Friends	Interested	Loyalty	Platonic	Pretty	Trust
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HARRIS GOES PHONE FREE..



On 3rd April 2025, Harris welcomed the “SmartPhone Free” education team to deliver up-to-date advice and guidance to parents about the impacts of screentime, social media & why Harris is going phone free.



With a lot of the discussion around introducing devices & phones to young people being not an “if” but a “when”, ideas like the Parent Pact were born to create a supportive community around parents & young people to delay the introduction until at least Year 9. If you are interested in finding more out about this, please visit

<https://parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

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Harris hosted a mobile phone evening, an event that proved to be both enlightening and thought-provoking. In today's digital age, it's easy to overlook the subtle yet significant ways in which smartphones can affect our children's wellbeing, academic performance, and social development.

The constant connectivity, while beneficial in some aspects, can also lead to decreased attention spans, disrupted sleep patterns, and reduced face-to-face interactions – all crucial elements for healthy adolescent development.

We know moving to a phone free school will be difficult for parents and students but I truly believe this is in the best interests of our students.

Mrs Harrison - Headteacher

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After tonight's event I am so glad Harris have decided to take action and support our children to navigate their digital futures. I feel supported and informed as a parent.

Parent of Year 7 & 9 students at Harris.