Newsletter
October 2019

Welcome to the first Cyber Champions Newsletter for the new academic year, brought to you by Merseyside Police and KPMG.

This Newsletter is for the Cyber Champions and their mentors, to bring you relevant information in regards to online safety and cyber-crime. Our objective is to keep you up to date with the latest online trends and threats happening across Merseyside, and to help you educate your peers about how to keep themselves safer when using the internet and social media.

Welcome to our new Cyber Champions!

On October 18th 2019 Merseyside Police attended Gateacre Comprehensive School and delivered Cyber Champion training to nine sixth form students . All nine students are fully trained Cyber Champions and will begin delivering the Cyber Champions Quiz during the next term. Thank you to all students who have volunteered ,the skills and knowledge you will gain from this experience will be invaluable for your future career.

Cyber Champion Sessions

Since the Cyber Champion Launch in May 2019; Carmel College Cyber Champions have visited St Cuthbert 's Catholic High School numerous times and have delivered the Cyber Quiz session to Year 7, 8 and 9 students, Archbishop Blanch Cyber Champions delivered a session to their Year 8 group, St Edmond Arrowsmith Cyber Champions delivered sessions to Year 7 and Year 8 students, Calderstones Cyber Champions delivered sessions to Year 7 classes and in the new academic

year Christ the King Cyber Champions have delivered sessions to Year 7, 8 and 9 students. The Cyber Champions who have delivered sessions have all done exceptionally well and have made a huge contribution to helping keep their younger peers safe when going online. Well done everyone!

2020 Cyber Champions

As we welcome in the new year, we would also like to welcome a new cohort of Cyber Champions for your school. Most Cyber Champions recruited last year will be leaving their school or college in Summer 2020, therefore to keep the Cyber Champions scheme rolling we would like the current Cyber Champions to help recruit a group of volunteers to deliver sessions in 2020/2021. Merseyside Police and KPMG will be sending out invites to all schools in November 2019 to arrange a Cyber Champions recruitment session to be delivered in January 2020, with the support from current Cyber Champions.

Cyber Security Awareness Month October 2019

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month and every year Merseyside Police and KPMG work together to help promote cyber security messages in the community. This year we attended Prenton High School and delivered a Cyber Security Awareness assembly to the Year 7 group. The key themes this year were: Protecting your identity online, safe use of social media, using smart phones smartly, online gaming and cyber attacks. The assembly was very well received and the students loved the Cyber British Bull Dog!

Merseyside Police Cyber Officers

September 13th 2019 Merseyside Police held a training session for Police Community Support Officers and Local School's Officers who have volunteered to become a Cyber Single Point of Contact. The training included talks about cyber crime, cyber prevent and cyber protect, the aim of the training session was to enable the officers to deliver important cyber related messages in their communities. From the training we have received two prevent referrals from Officers that the Cyber Crime Unit are now working with. Each Cyber Officer has been allocated schools in their area to visit and to offer support to current Cyber Champions and recruit new Cyber Champions for 2020. If you are unaware of who your Cyber Officer is for your school please contact digitalpcso@merseyside.pnn.police.uk and we will provide you with contact details.

Cyber Reports

Kik Messaging App Kik is a free instant messaging app available on IOS and Android operating systems owned by Kik Interactive. On 24th September 2019, Kik Interactive announced it would be closing down the messaging service. However within the past week there has been news reports suggesting that the Kik app won't be shutting down after MediaLab decided to invest in the app's future. Kik was first launched in 2010, the app attracted users for its chat feature which enabled users to remain anonymous, users were not required to register with a phone number or personal details, however this feature has contributed to a number of negative factors. The app has appeared in headlines for how child predators have exploited the anonymity feature to contact minors and groom them. It has also been recognised as a high risk app for cyber bullying. Now Kik is here to stay it is an app to definitely be aware of.

Live Streaming Live streaming is a valuable way to connect with the wider community. With popular apps such as Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, YouTube and many more now offering a live streaming feature, young people are live streaming more now than ever before, but it is important that they are keeping themselves safe when using it. People can easily reveal too much personal information about themselves during live streaming, even publishing live videos in their school uniform or from their own bedrooms could give away their identify and personal information. Although live streaming is a harmless feature, it is important to highlight that during live streaming there is no

Resources

Thinkuknow is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline. www.thinkuknow.co.uk provides six different websites, each website is aimed at different age groups, parents/carers and children's workforces. Each website contains a wealth of information and advice about staying safe online and provides videos, activities and resources that you can use when delivering online safety sessions in school.

If you need any advice or support relating to online safety, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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