

SAFER



SCHOOLS

September 2021

Welcome to September's newsletter. We hope you have enjoyed a restful and fun packed Summer break. Our Newsletter continues to provide helpful advice, tips and safety messages for you & your family. Parents and Carers are reminded that this newsletter is for **both** Primary and Secondary school children, and therefore trust your personal judgement to share what you feel is **relevant** information with your child/s.

E-scooters and School legislation

We know we have covered e-scooters on many occasions, however our communities continue to see the mis-use and ASB behaviours associated with riding e-scooters illegally. In this newsletter we continue to educate the community by informing you that schools have a specific legislation to deal with persistent offenders. Please see below:

Section 94 of the **Education and Inspections Act 2006** provides the authority to confiscate property as a lawful, disciplinary penalty. **What you need to know:**

- Schools can confiscate a pupil's property as a disciplinary sanction.
- The confiscation must be reasonable.
- Retention and disposal of the property must be reasonable – i.e. returned to parents, not the student.

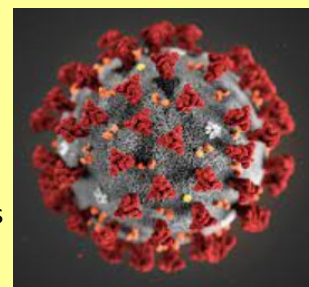


A reminder: While e-scooters are legally available to purchase, it's currently against the law to ride a privately-owned e-scooter in any public place in the UK. This includes roads, pavements, parks or town centre's. **The only place a privately-owned e-scooter can be used is on private land.** This is because e-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs) so they are treated as motor vehicles. As such, if they are used on a road, pavement or public place they are subject to the same legal requirements as any motor vehicle (taxed, insured and the rider holds a full driving licence). We would also ask anyone using an e-scooter legally i.e. on private land, to carefully consider their safety before doing so. **All riders should wear a safety helmet.**

COVID

Although restrictions have been lifted it is important to remain vigilant. Unfortunately the virus has not gone away, so let's continue to do our part to ensure society and our communities remain safe.

Please consider and ensure your families are accepting the vaccine where possible. In the coming months it will be more difficult to attend college, attend festivals, go on nights out and go on holidays abroad if you and your family are not double jabbed. ***We do appreciate that there are groups of individuals who are unable to receive the vaccine.**



This is also a great opportunity to remind ourselves of the new NHS guidelines. Please watch the short, informative video to ensure you are up to speed with the current changes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUSBGcbg10U>

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

#SaferCambs



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire



Could you be breaking the law?

On the 14th of July 2021, commencement of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 brings in tough new measures that strengthen law enforcement's response to violent crime. The act makes it illegal to possess dangerous weapons in **private**, including knuckledusters, zombie knives and death star knives, and you will soon have to verify you are over 18 to buy bladed items from the internet. The video below will tell you more about the changes to the law, and how it may affect you.

<https://vimeo.com/568036142>

The Law

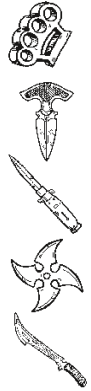
The Offensive Weapons Act 2019

The relevant Sections 43, 44, 46 and 47 create an offence of possessing certain dangerous articles and offensive weapons in private, modifies the definition of a flick knife and adds weapons to the prohibited articles list. You may be a collector. Ensure your collection is legal. If it's a weapon, knives, firearms, check the list!

<https://nbcc.police.uk/knifeguidance>

The Offensive Weapons Act 2019

- It is now illegal to possess certain weapons in private places, including your home. This includes items such as knuckledusters, flick knives and telescopic truncheons.
- There will also be changes to the process of buying knives online with enhanced age verification checks at point of sale and collection/delivery.
- Please store and dispose of knives safely to reduce the risk of them being used as weapons.
- Help prevent knife crime by reporting any concerns, including about how they are sold, to the Police or anonymously to Crimestoppers.



To find out more visit the National Business Crime Centre www.nbcc.police.uk/knifeguidance

Changes to the legislation

TikTok

Members of your family may be using a number of different social media apps to create videos and be creative - for example, TikTok. There are many children out there who have heard of, or are using TikTok **BUT** did you know that **adult supervision is required with any child under the age of 16 to use TikTok?** Most social media platforms have a legal age limit of 13+. To keep up to date, the NSPCC has a great website called NetAware. You type in the name of the social media platform you are interested in and it will tell you the legal age and details about their service.

It is important if your child/s are using TikTok they are given the opportunity to speak with a trusted adult for them to help and supervise and to ensure they are safe on line.

When creating videos, families need to consider how **'exposed'** they are becoming in doing this? When filming in bedrooms, outside homes and even in school, you are immediately identifying yourself and divulging personal information to many people on-line. This information can be quickly gathered and someone can piece together where you live, where your child/s go to school, what your house looks like....all within minutes of viewing a TikTok video. This information could then be used to commit fraud, identity theft and more worryingly, can be used by people wanting to exploit or cause harm.

The next video, an advert produced by Barclays Bank, highlights how quickly your personal information can be obtained – once you have seen the video, think, can you relate to some of this?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2tW50CD6Aw>

Please click on the link below for more information on how to use TikTok safely:

[A parents guide to TikTok - YouTube](#)



Call: 101

Telephone: 18001 101

Visit: cambs.police.uk

Follow: [CambsCops](#)

Subscribe: eCops.org.uk

#SaferCambs



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

Stop and Search: A guide for Parents, Carers and Children

To help tackle and prevent crime, the Police have a number of powers and responsibilities. One of these powers include **Stop & Search**. This allows Police Officers to detain a person and search them if they are suspected of being in possession of weapons, drugs or other items relating to crime or disorder.



There is no age limit for Stop and Search, meaning the Police have the power to carry out searches on children if the situation is **appropriate** and **necessary**. By exercising the power of Stop and Search, Police Officers have to follow a correct procedure and process. It is important that you and your child are aware and informed of this practice.

Please use this link for further information. <https://www.gov.uk/police-powers-to-stop-and-search-your-rights>.

Here are a few advisory points to talk to your child if, for whatever reason they find themselves being stopped and searched by the Police:

- Listen to the officer's instructions. Do not panic, or attempt to run.
- If they do have items on them that they know they shouldn't have, tell the officer straight away. Their honesty will be appreciated.
- Do not attempt to reach for these items – the officer will safely retrieve these items.
- Officers should talk them through the process and what is required of them. If they do not understand, politely and calmly ask them to explain things in more detail.
- If the officer finds something during the search that is of concern or of a criminal nature, they will explain what will happen next. This **may** mean being arrested, or required to attend the Police station for an interview, however parents or carers will be contacted and asked to attend also.

All stop searches have to be recorded, so you or your child can request a copy of this. Just remember the officers are doing their job and making your community a safer place to live.

Follow this link for further advise. <https://www.askthe.police.uk/content/AlphaList.mth?letter=S&categoryid=92>

Worried about Sexting & nude selfies?

'Nude image sharing' is a term used to describe naked or semi-naked pictures or videos taken on an electronic device and shared online. Young people often refer to nude pictures as either 'nudes' or simply 'pics'.



Young people may share naked or semi-naked pictures of themselves for a variety of reasons, including within a trusted relationship, for fun within a peer group or because they have been pressured into doing so.

Talking to your child/s about relationships, sex and nude images is the best thing that you can do to help keep them safe in the cyber world. However, it is accepted that this might be a difficult conversation to have with your child/s, especially if you are confused or uncertain about the concept of 'nude image sharing' yourself.

To help demystify this, follow this link [7 questions parents ask about nude selfies](#) from Thinkuknow (Thinkuknow is an educational programme from the National Crime Agency's CEOP Command). Thinkuknow have also produced a series of films to help parents and carers to talk openly to their children about this matter. They can be found by following this link [watch for free online](#)

The Law: Children and Young people should be made aware, or reminded that by sending, or sharing sexual imagery of themselves or others then they are breaking the law!

We would love to hear your feedback & comments.

You can contact the team via our email

Schools&CYP@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Call: 101

Telephone: 18001 101

Visit: cambs.police.uk

Follow: CambsCops

Subscribe: eCops.org.uk

#SaferCambs



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire