Severndale Star

SEVERNDALE SPECIALIST ACADEMY | NEWSLETTER 20.05.2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Good afternoon parents and carers,

As with all KS4 pupils around the country this week we have had a couple of Severndale@Mary Webb pupils beginning their GCSE exams. Good luck to Thomas Hayward & Martyn Jones as they start on their examination journey. Elsewhere in the academy classes have been preparing for the Jubilee event as well as continuing with their usual hard work in the classrooms.

Jubilee Events

Saturday afternoon - 21st May 2022

We have 2 Jubilee celebration events happening over the next 7 days. The first one is the Friends of Severndale Jubilee Picnic and this will take place between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday afternoon. ALL parents, carers and family members are invited and it will be a really good opportunity to socialise, chat and spend some quality time with other families from Severndale. There will also be some entertainment and activities too.

Thursday afternoon - 26th May 2022

On Thursday we have the Severndale Jubilee event happening. All parents and carers have received a letter about this event giving details and also sharing the link to Eventbrite for booking your place on the day. Please remember that we would like pupils to dress in red, white and blue clothing if at all possible on Thursday. The link for booking can be found here...

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/severndale-queens-jubilee-celebration-tickets-344632885237

Forthcoming events and training

Please find enclosed within the newsletter a range of invitations to local activities that have been shared with us due to them being very SEN friendly. These activities are not directly related to Severndale although we do link with each of these providers in some capacity particularly our older pupils.

In addition I have also attached details of a course being led by an organisation called Down Syndrome Cheshire. It has been shared with me by one of our parents and further information can be found at the following link...

https://dscheshire.org.uk/our-story/

Portage – Small Steps to Learning. Online training	Thursday 26th May 7.30pm – 9pm	https://forms.gle/7cQptUCijB3fFL797

Newsletter changes

I am sure you are all aware of how much the newsletter is growing each week and we are now receiving weekly requests to put events and training opportunities in the newsletter. As from after half term I am proposing that we split the newsletter fortnightly. One week will be a pupil focused photograph based newsletter and the second week will be an information sharing newsletter. This will mean we can reduce the number of pages and also ensure that we have a detailed pupil focus newsletter that appears every two weeks. As always if you have any thoughts around this then please do not hesitate to contact me at the academy.

It now only leaves me to wish you all a lovely weekend and hopefully I will see you at the FOS event tomorrow afternoon.

Brian

P4 - SENSORY SESSION

Each day in P4 we have a sensory session. The pupils choose the music they would like to play and we do a variety of creative activities. It is lots of fun !!

SF1 - READY, STEADY, COOK!

SF1 put their cooking skills to the test on Monday afternoon as they worked together to create a wonderful looking Chilli Con Carne. Pupils worked as a team and communicated effectively between one another to gather ingredients and produce the perfect recipe. Watch out Ainsley Harriott!

SF1 - READY, STEADY, COOK!

S10 - FOREST SCHOOL

SF10 pupils took advantage of the good weather during Forest School this week. From digging to bird watching, these activities stimulate serotonin production which can make you feel happy and relaxed. Beneficial to the pupils psychological wellbeing.

F6 & F3 - TICKWOOD FARM

F6 and F3 joined together to visit Tickwood. We started the day with a lovely walk and a tour of the site as well as exploring the rope course, followed by lunch sat together in the field. For the afternoon we spilt into mixed class teams and worked together to compete against each other in team games which involved finding different items in our environment.

F6 & F3 - TICKWOOD FARM

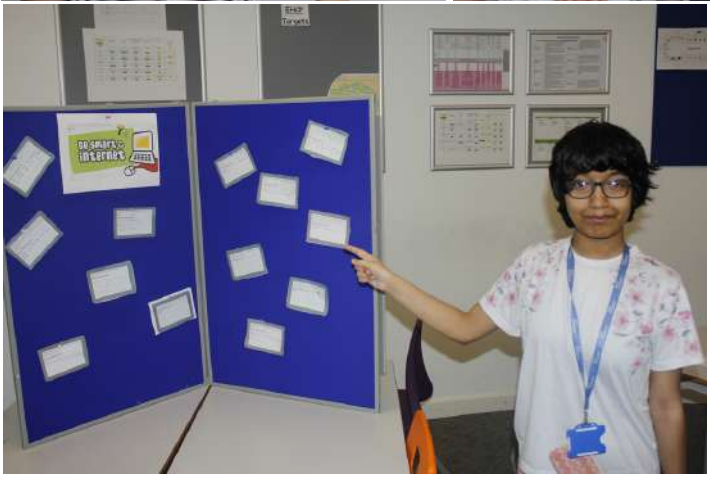
S1 - DESIGNING JUBILEE CROWNS

S1 were involved in fun activities this week as they designed crowns for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. The Queen marks 70 years on the throne in 2022, the first time that a British Monarch has celebrated a Platinum Jubilee. Doing these sort of activities enhances communication between pupils and staff, but also helps build fine motor and problem solving skills.

FUTURES PARENT EVENT

Futures staff and students were delighted to welcome parents and carers to their event this week. Visitors were able to take part in a table cricket demonstration by the Futures team, and view the student art exhibition showing a range of work on the theme of feelings and recovering from Covid. They also enjoyed watching videos of students taking part in independent living activities, finding out about internet safety, and supporting revision for Maths & English. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon tea prepared and served by Futures students.

One of the students from Futures, Chloe Beddows, is part of the Identity Dance group in Shrewsbury. Chloe recently attended the Ultimate Dance Competition & Championship final, they were very successful at this event and Chloe was delighted to come and share her achievements with her friends at Futures. Well Done Chloe!



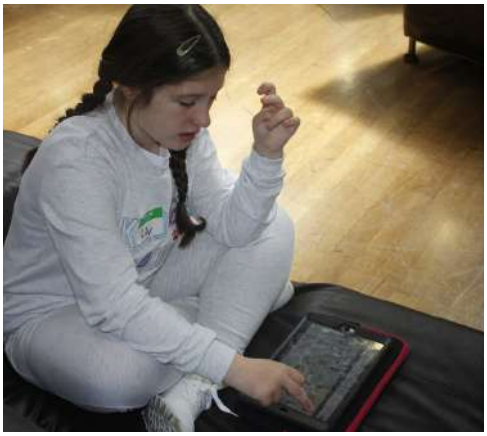
Luke Baker has recently been learning about using the recovery position in his first aid sessions at Futures. Last weekend he was able to help a friend when he was in Shrewsbury after they suffered a seizure. Luke said, 'I was quite scared but afterwards I was proud I could help her by putting her in the recovery position'.

FUTURES PARENT EVENT

SEVERNDALE VISIT SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

On Thursday 19th, 16 Semi-Formal students visited Shrewsbury School to take part in a day of activities they were putting on for us as part of their 'field day'. We have been building a strong relationship with Shrewsbury school and have a number of projects including dance, singing and swimming. We also have a regular visit from a group of their 6th form students who come to support in classes across the academy each week.

The event on Thursday was a huge success with our students taking part in football, jubilee craft, dance and a scavenger hunt. Both Severndale students and Shrewsbury School students did themselves proud by working together and building on relationships which we will continue into the future. A huge thank you to Shrewsbury school for hosting and a massive well done to all Severndale students who took part in the experience. Plans are already in the pipeline to make the event bigger and better next year.



SEVERNDALE VISIT SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

F4 & F5 - TENNIS SESSION

We have been really lucky to access dome funding from the Lawn Tennis Association to set up lots of tennis opportunities for our students. F4 and F5 are having weekly tennis lessons at the Shrewsbury Lawn Tennis Club. The coach and the volunteers are working really well with our students. F6 have a tennis coach that is coming in weekly to school, whilst F3 and S9 are having a special day of tennis this week. All this support, we might have the next Wimbledon Champion on our hands. The skill level and hand eye co-ordination of the pupils has been brilliant!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT - ALEX BEARDMORE

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Name: Alex Beardmore

Job Title: Teaching Assistant

What does this involve?

I help support the class teacher and all the students in my class throughout the school day, making sure the students are happy, safe and getting the most out of school.

What do I enjoy outside of school?

I enjoy going on days out, travelling and exploring new places. I also enjoy visiting my family, spending time with them and my friends and walking my family dog Eddie.

Please tell us something interesting about you?

I bought my first house last year and have been busy renovating it since.

What is something people don't know about you?

I studied Primary Teaching at the University of Worcester and graduated with my degree just before starting at Severndale in 2020.

FRIENDS OF SEVERNDALE NEWS

FOS's Charity Golf Day is being held at Shrewsbury Golf Club today.

It is FOS's biggest fundraising event of the year, and lots of work goes into making it a success, both for FOS's generous supporters (the golf teams and sponsors) and as a fundraising event for FOS.

This year we are fundraising for an interactive light room at school. If anyone wishes to donate to the Golf Day campaign, please visit this link:

www.justgiving.com/campaign/fosgolfday

NOTICE OF FRIENDS OF SEVERNDALE ("FOS") ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ("AGM") with light refreshments

on Tuesday 7th June at 6.30pm
at Severndale Specialist Academy

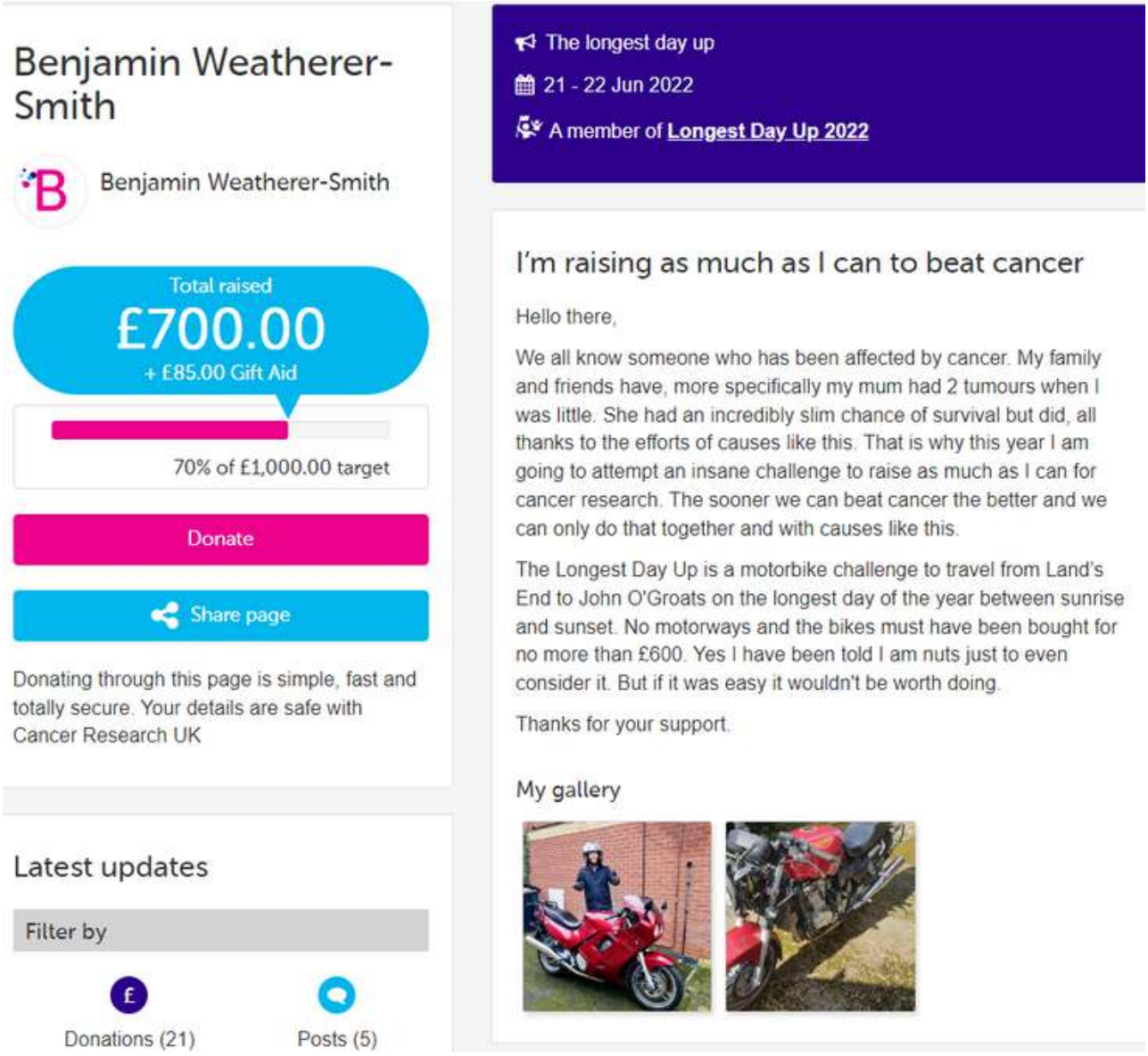
FOS plays a vital part in the school community and all members are warmly invited. Membership of FOS automatically includes all parents, guardians and carers of any pupil currently attending the school; staff currently employed by the school plus any person over the age of 18 wishing to offer appropriate support or help to the committee and who is accepted by the committee as a member. This is your chance to hear and see how the funds you have helped to raise have been used for the benefit of the children/students at our school.

The AGM is also an opportunity for you to elect the FOS Committee, who represent FOS throughout the forthcoming year. Nominations should be sent to fossocialevents@gmail.com in advance of the AGM for anyone wishing to stand as an Officer (Chairman; Vice-Chairman; Secretary; Treasurer) or Ordinary Committee Member, for the first time.

If you would like any further information about being a Committee Member, please contact either Jayne Parry (FOS Chairman - jayne.parry@severndaleacademy.co.uk), or Francesca Cawood (FOS Secretary - fossocialevents@gmail.com).

RSVP to fossocialevents@gmail.com

LONGEST DAY CHALLENGE - FUNDRAISER



Hilary Smith's son is looking to raise money for Cancer Research as he takes part in the Longest Day Challenge. At sunrise on the longest day of the year - 21st June - a group of motorcyclists will set off from Lands End (England) with the intention of seeing the sunrise 24-hours later over John O'Groats (Scotland). To find out more or to donate, please visit the links below.

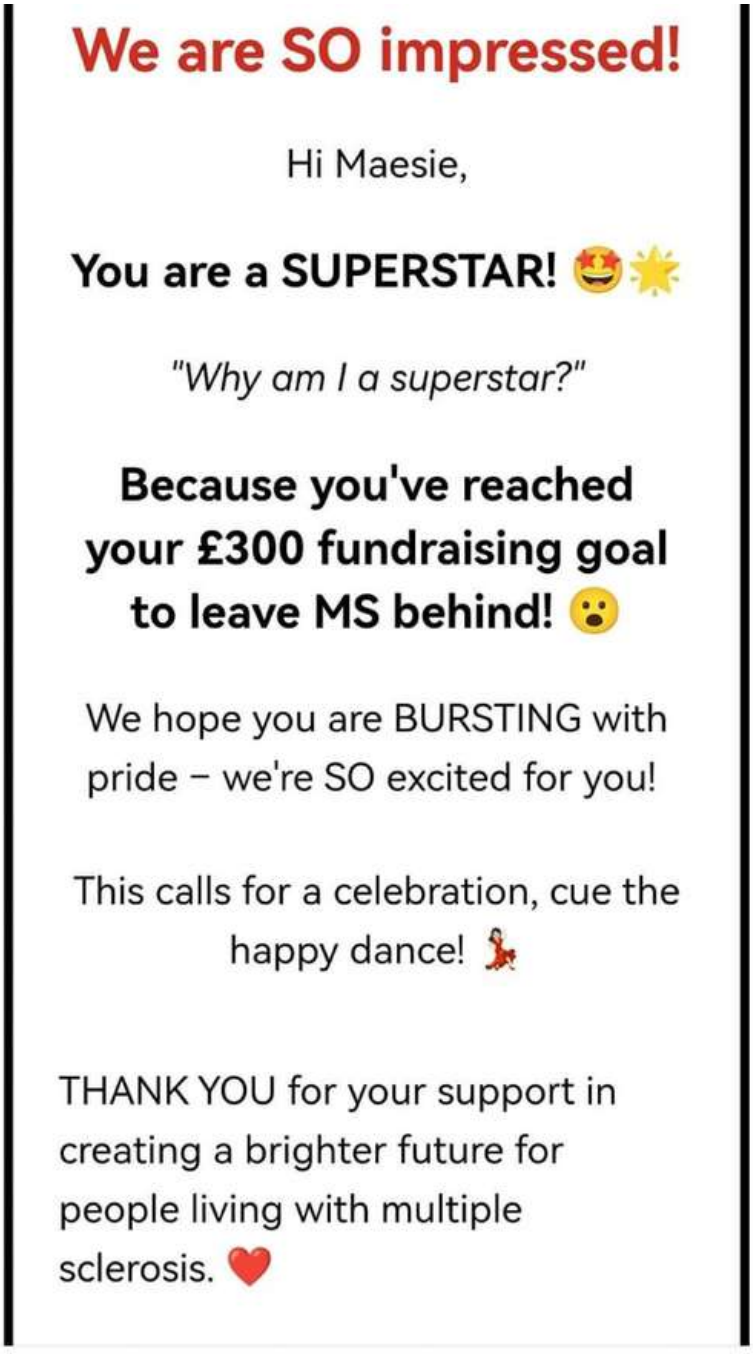
https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/benjamin-weatherer-smith

This second link is to the charity page and explains what the challenge is:

https://www.bemoto.uk/blog/what-is-the-longest-day-challenge-2022

MAESIE MAY 50K - FUNDRAISER

Massive well done to Maesie Nelson, who has raised over £300 during the May 50k fundraiser. Maesie is raising money for life-changing MS research and improved access to treatments for all. Her friend, Jade, was diagnosed with the illness in 2019 which has completely affected her life. She has completed an amazing 62km, all of us at Severndale are very proud of you Maesie!



JUBILEE TEA PARTY

Join us to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Wednesday 1st June 2022

11am til 3pm
Donations on the door

A great day! Filled with lots of stalls with food & drink, local entertainment & more

Email us on admin@headwayshropshire.org.uk for more information
Headway House, Holsworth park, Oxon Business Park, Shrewsbury, SY3 5HJ

Headway Shropshire
Improving Life After Brain Injury

Oak Farm

is excited to present

OakFest 2022

THE VILLAGE SHOW

Saturday 28th May 12pm - 4.30pm

*** ENTRANCE FEE DONATION ***

Oak Farm, Station Road, Ditton Priors WV16 6SS

The event will host a mixture of stalls, entertainment, live music, displays, food and drink and, not forgetting, our infamous

Dog Show

Contact Oak Farm on 01746 712352 or email cburgess@bethphage.co.uk

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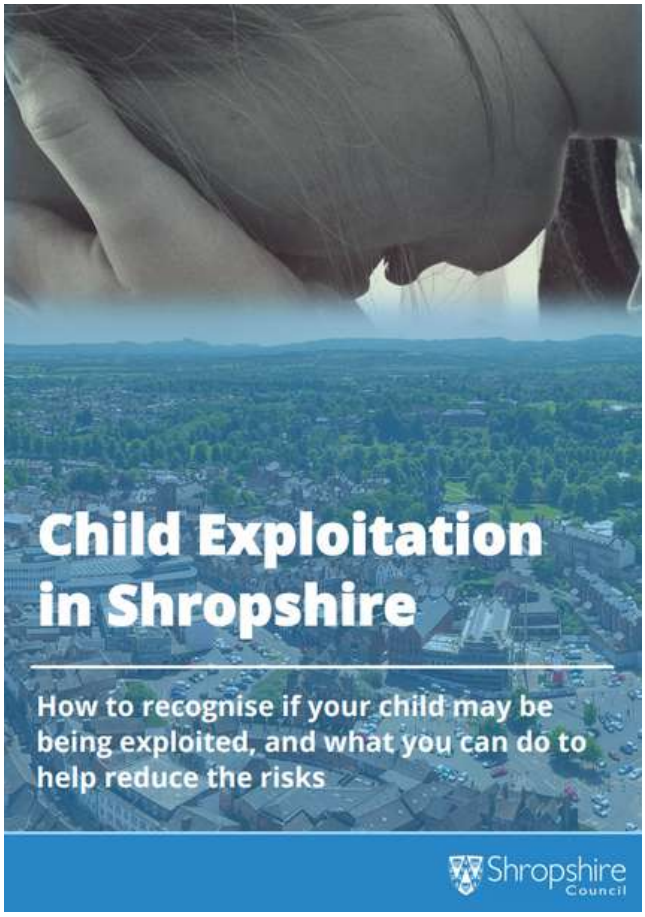
Edenred

Next week supermarket vouchers will be sent out to families of students eligible for benefits related Free School Meals to cover the period of the Half Term break. These will be sent using Edenred as we have done over previous holidays. Please keep an eye out for their emails and check your junk/spam folder if you haven't received anything. If you have any questions please contact your class teacher.



What is Exploitation?

Are you concerned about changes in your child's behaviour? Have you noticed that they may be feeling under pressure from influences from outside your family home? Realising that your child could be being exploited can be distressing, but help and support is available.

Exploitation is a form of abuse, it occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child, young person or adult into any activity that results in an advantage for the perpetrator. Specific types of Exploitation include **Sexual Exploitation**, **Criminal Exploitation**, and **Financial Exploitation**.

Who does it affect?

Exploitation can happen to any young person from any background, in any part of the country - including Shropshire. The young person often isn't aware that they are a victim, as exploiters are very clever in the way they manipulate the young person into trusting them.

What are the signs?

- New friendship groups, who may be older in age
- Engaging in sexual activity, including exchanging indecent photos
- Missing episodes, when you don't know their whereabouts
- Spending less time at home and distancing from previous friends
- Receiving gifts & rewards
- Increased secretiveness
- Disengagement from school & hobbies
- Use of drugs or alcohol, perhaps without the means to afford this
- A decline in mental health, possibly becoming more aggressive
- Possession of a weapon
- Committing low level crimes

What can I do as a parent or carer?

- ☑ Discuss differences between healthy and unhealthy friendships and relationships
- ☑ Stay alert to any changes in behaviour which may indicate that they are feeling under pressure
- ☑ Carefully monitor any episodes of staying out late or not returning home
- ☑ Be aware of who they are spending time with and encourage them to keep in touch by texting you when they are out in the community
- ☑ Report them missing if you do not know where they are
- ☑ Talk openly to your child about keeping safe and listen calmly if they confide in you
- ☑ Regularly check the young person's possessions for drugs and any unexplained money or gifts
- ☑ Install online safety features and apps
- ☑ Check in with parents of their friends
- ☑ Be cautious of any older friends or friendships where there appears to be a power imbalance
- ☑ Check in with school or college to see if they have noticed any changes in behaviour
- ☑ Share your concerns with school staff or Children's Services
- ☑ Take a look at our CE Directory to find out about other support available:

https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/media/21754/ce-directory.pdf

Report concerns about a child

Shropshire's TREES (Together Reducing & Ending Exploitation in Shropshire) Hub are based within Children's Services. We are committed to identifying young people who are at risk of exploitation, and supporting professionals and families to reduce these risks. It is recognised that these risks are out in the community, rather than within the family home. This is what is known as **Contextual Safeguarding**.

We can offer social care support to families where appropriate, or we can signpost to another support service such as a substance misuse service, sexual abuse support service, Early Help or diversionary activities - with the aim of disrupting exploitation and reducing the risks going forward.

Call 0345 678 9021 or 0345 678 9040 if out of office hours

www.shropshire.gov.uk/childrens-social-care-and-health

Report concerns about potential exploitation in your community

Intelligence about perpetrators and locations of concern is crucial to help us build up a picture of Child Exploitation in Shropshire, and allows West Mercia Police and Children's Services to work together to safeguard children and make our communities a safer place to live.

If anyone is at risk of immediate harm: Call 999

To share non-urgent information: Call 101 or visit the "Tell Us About" section on www.westmercia.police.uk

To report information anonymously: Call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org

24 APPS PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

This list is not exhaustive, and will be updated each year to reflect new risks and dangers

THESE APPS CAN EASILY BE USED AS GROOMING TOOLS BY ONLINE PREDATORS LOOKING TO MEET UP & SEXUALLY ABUSE CHILDREN. (UPDATED 2021)

FACEBOOK
FACEBOOK allows you to connect with others and share comments, photos and videos. You can add friends, write on people's pages and posts, join groups and play games.

SNAPCHAT
SNAPCHAT Is one of the most popular apps in recent years. Whilst the app promises that photo's, videos and stories disappear, others can take screenshots of private photo's.

INSTAGRAM
INSTAGRAM Kids are creating fake accounts to hide content from their parents, according to police. Messages are also deleted once a user leaves a conversation.

WHATSAPP
WHATSAPP allows you to send messages, images and videos in 121 and group chats with your contacts. You can choose to share your live location for up to eight hours with one contact or a group.

KIDSCHAT
KIDSCHAT.NET is a free online messaging app for children. You can talk to people you don't know on public forums and via private message. You can access the site as a guest.

SKYPE
SKYPE is a platform and app that lets you make audio and video calls to other people around the world. You can also send instant messages.

WHISPER
WHISPER is an anonymous social media app that promotes sharing personal secrets with strangers, (new people). It reveals a users location so people can meet up

CALCULATOR %
CALCULATOR % is only one of SEVERAL social media apps disguised as a calculator, the app is actually a secret photo vault to hide photos, videos, files and browser history.

HOT ON NOT
HOT ON NOT Strangers rate a user's 'attractiveness' with the aim of real-world meet ups in your local area.

ASK.FM
ASK.FM An app where users can anonymously ask questions and receive answers. The app has been featured in a number of cyber bullying cases.

YUBO
YUBO Similar to Tinder, the app is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other.

KIK MESSAGING Kik
KIK MESSAGING Kik is a messaging app that allows content normally filtered on a home computer.

BURN BOOK
BURN BOOK Anonymous rumours can be posted about people through audio messages, texts and photos.

WISHBONE
WISHBONE This app allows users to compare kids and rate them on a scale.

GRINDR
GRINDR Is a dating app geared towards gay, bisexual and transgender people. The app allows people to chat, share and meet up in person based on a GPSS location.

SKOUT
SKOUT is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.

MEET ME
MEET ME Is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. The app encourages people to meet in person.

TIK TOK
TIK TOK Is one of the most popular apps in recent years used for sharing short videos with very limited privacy controls users are vulnerable to explicit material.

TELLOYMN
TELLOYMN anonymous messenger app. It calls itself "the most honest place on the internet." Age controls are inconsistent and sexual explicit material can be found.

Zoomerang
Zoomerang Is a popular app that looks like a harmless messaging app however it allows private anonymous messaging and is location enabled.

BUMBLE
BUMBLE is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts

FACEBOOK MESSENGER
FACEBOOK MESSENGER Is one of the most popular message apps in the world. It has already heavily been used by predators and the end-to end encryption will make it even more unsafe.

BADOO
BADOO is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.

OMEGLE
OMEGLE is a video chat website where users are matched randomly with strangers.

#CHILDABUSEHELP
CHILD ABUSE RESOURCES
WWW.CHILDABUSEHELP.ORG.UK

NSPCC HELPLINE
0800 800 5000

NNECA
WWW.NNECA.ORG.UK

SCHOOL INFORMATION

OUR WEBSITE

Take a look at our website - www.severndaleacademy.co.uk

Learning Community Trust

Severndale Academy

NEWSLETTER QUERIES?
CONTACT US ON:
MATTHEW.BETHELL@SEVERNDALEACADEMY.CO.UK
01742 563287