

Our ref: AGH/HLE/Sharing of Explicit Images

20 May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Safeguarding Concern – Sharing of Explicit Images

I am writing to you to raise awareness of a serious safeguarding issue that affects young people across the UK. The receiving and sharing of explicit or indecent images, often referred to by young people as “nudes” or “sexting”.

As a school, it is our duty to address this issue in line with our safeguarding responsibilities and with the Department for Education’s statutory guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE)*.

Under the Sexual Offences Act 2003, it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to take, possess, or share explicit images of themselves or others — even if those involved are the same age and consent is given. These images are legally classified as *indecent images of children*.

Beyond the legal risks, students involved in this type of activity may also experience:

- **Emotional and mental distress**, especially if images are shared without consent.
- **Bullying or exploitation**, including blackmail or threats.
- **Reputational harm**, including online harassment.
- **Loss of control**, as images can be quickly copied, shared, and stored beyond their original context.

We encourage you to have open, non-judgemental conversations with your child about their use of technology and social media. Please consider the following:

- Talk about the legal and emotional consequences of sending or receiving explicit content.
- Reassure your child that they can always talk to you or another trusted adult if they’re worried or feel pressured.
- Make sure they understand the importance of saying “no” to requests for images — even if it comes from someone they know well.

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Please report any concern to the Designated Safeguarding Leads immediately. You can also report concerns directly to CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command) at www.ceop.police.uk. Sussex Police have also provided the guidance on a '**Report and Remove**' tool that prevents potential further distribution on-line. If your child has an indecent image on their phone, it is essential you follow the attached guidance to report and remove it.

For further support and information, please access: Childline.org.uk and Internetmatters.org

Thank you for your continued support in helping us safeguard and educate all our students. Working together, we can ensure that young people are protected, informed, and empowered to make safe choices online and offline.

Yours sincerely



Adam Griffith

Designated Safeguarding Lead

