



Tudor Grange Academy Redditch

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Re: 'Sexting'

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the increasing interest that young people nationally, are showing in 'sexting'. 'Sexting' is the exchange of self-generated sexual images by mobile phones or via a webcam over the internet.

We deliver bespoke sessions on internet safety to all our students and discuss the issues in PSHE lessons and in assemblies. However, it worries me that a growing number of youngsters in the UK seem to ignore these messages and continue to exchange, and in some cases share with groups of others, such images.

The NSPCC has produced some excellent guidance for parents. I think that it would be useful if you could read through these and discuss the issues with your child(ren) if appropriate.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/sexting/>

I would also like to share with you the legal ramifications of involvement in this activity. It is illegal to take, possess or share 'indecent images' of anyone under 18 even if they are the person in the picture. If the person is under the age of 18, the law sees them as a child. Therefore, if a person has any indecent images or videos of somebody who is under 18 they would technically be in possession of an indecent image of a child – even if they are the same age. This is an offence under the [Protection of Children Act 1978 and the Criminal Justice Act 1988](#). At Tudor Grange Academy we are careful to highlight the legal framework to our students. However, I think that there might be a few who ignore the consequences of storing and distributing such images. I would ask that you raise this with them and ensure that they are fully aware of the possible consequences of becoming involved in activities such as this.

The Police are becoming involved in more of these cases as stories in the news suggest:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-33126718>

If you would like further advice, please contact Mr Damon Gariff, or myself and we will be happy to speak with you.

The Academy has an [E-Safety Policy](#) as well as a [Photography & Images of Students Policy](#). All Policies can be found at this [link](#).

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Rose Rees
Principal

