

Devon & Cornwall Police and Dorset Police

Sexting: Advice and guidance for young people, parents and carers

You / your child has been provided with this information booklet as you / they have been involved in an incident of youth produced sexual imagery or as it is more commonly known 'sexting'.

Sexting is the sending or receiving of sexual, naked or seminaked images or videos of themselves or others. For the purpose of this guidance we will be using the term 'Sexting' to describe the taking, sharing and possession of images or videos of individuals who are 17 years of age and under.

Anyone who creates, shares or has in their possession sexual images or videos of someone who is 17 years or younger is committing one or more criminal offences.

This booklet will explain what the police have done about this incident and will provide further information, help and advice on sexting for young people and for parents, guardians and carers.

What have the police done about this incident of youth produced sexual imagery or 'sexting'

You / your child has been recorded on police systems against the Protection of Children Act 1978 and Criminal Justice Act 1998 in line with Home Office crime recording rules. After consideration of all relevant factors, a decision has been made that no further action will be taken by the police in this instance.

You / your child has not been convicted or cautioned for any offence connected with this investigation.

In the event that a future 'Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service' (DBS) check is required it is unlikely that this record will be disclosed unless you / your child are investigated or have further action taken against you / them in the future which could suggest a relevant pattern of behaviour.

Any decision to disclose will be made by the chief police officer dealing with the request, based on all factors and information available at the time of the decision.

What does this mean?

- This **does not** mean that you / your child has a criminal record.
- It does mean that you / your child's information is on a policing system.
- If you / your child does not have any other relevant offences / incidents against them on a policing system, it is highly unlikely that this would be disclosed on Disclosure and Barring Service check when they were applying for a job or university for example.
- This recorded incident (on its own) will not stop you / your child travelling to different countries.

Further support and information for young people

Childline offer a free, 24 hour, confidential helpline for all young people to talk about anything that is worrying you, including sexting and how to makes reports on different social media sites. You can contact Childline in a number of ways including by phone, email, online chat or their website which has lots of information:

Phone: 0800 11 11

Website: childline.org.uk/sexting

Online chat: childline.org.uk/get-support/1-2-1-counsellor-chat/

So you got naked online!

The South West Grid for Learning has produced this booklet 'So you got naked online!' to provide advice and strategies to support the issues resulting from sexting incidents.

Website: swgfl.org.uk

Thinkuknow

Provides information and advice on lots of topics including sexting.

Website: thinkuknow.com

ZIPIT App

The ZIPIT App contains a lot of memes and images to send back topeople that might have asked for sexual images. This can take the pressure off to send sexualised images. Download the app now. Available for Android, Apple and Blackberry smatphones (and iPod touch). It's free to download.

Website: childline.org.uk/sexting/zipit-app

The Internet Watch Foundation

Have partnered with Childline to help get sexual or naked images of children and young people removed from the internet.

Website: iwf.org.uk/

Further support and information for parents and carers

There are many reasons why a young person might take and share sexual imagery. Having open and supportive discussions with young people is important in increasing their awareness of the issues and risks and aiding them in making good choices.

The NSPCC

Has information, advice and a helpline about sexting as well as lots of other topics.

Phone: 0808 800 500
Website: nspcc.org.uk
Email: help@nspcc.org.uk

Website: 88858

The UK Safer Internet Centre have produced checklists on using social networks safely.

Website: saferinternet.org.uk/checklists

Parent info provides information and advice to parents from expert organisations on topics ranging from sex and relationships, mental health and online safety. This content includes sexting.

Website: parentinfo.org

Think u know provides information for parents on a wide range of issues affecting young people. This includes a film resource for parents and carers to help them prevent their children coming to harm through sharing sexual imagery.

Website: thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

The Internet Watch Foundation have partnered with Childline to help get sexual or naked images of children and young people removed from the internet.

Website: iwf.org.uk/

If someone is making you feel uncomfortable online about sex, or asking you to send them pictures of yourself, please don't be afraid to speak to someone. You could speak to a trusted adult like a parent or carer, teacher or youth group leader.

You can also report it to the police or find support for issues you may be facing by any of the ways below or on the next page.

CEOP

If you worried about online abuse or the way someone is communicating online let CEOP know on ceop.police.uk/safety-centre

Victim Care Unit (Devon & Cornwall)

Help and support for victims from both local and national groups: victimcaredevonandcornwall.org.uk

Emergency contact details for Devon & Cornwall Police and Dorset Police

If you have a serious concern about your safety or someone else's, or it's an emergency always dial 999.

Non-Emergency contact details for Devon & Cornwall Police

⊠101@dc.police.uk

101 Online contact form: dc.police.uk/101

1 Online crime reporting: dc.police.uk/reportcrime

101

Non-Emergency contact details for Dorset Police

≥ 101@dorset.police.uk

Online crime reporting and contact form: dorset.police.uk/do-it-online

) 101

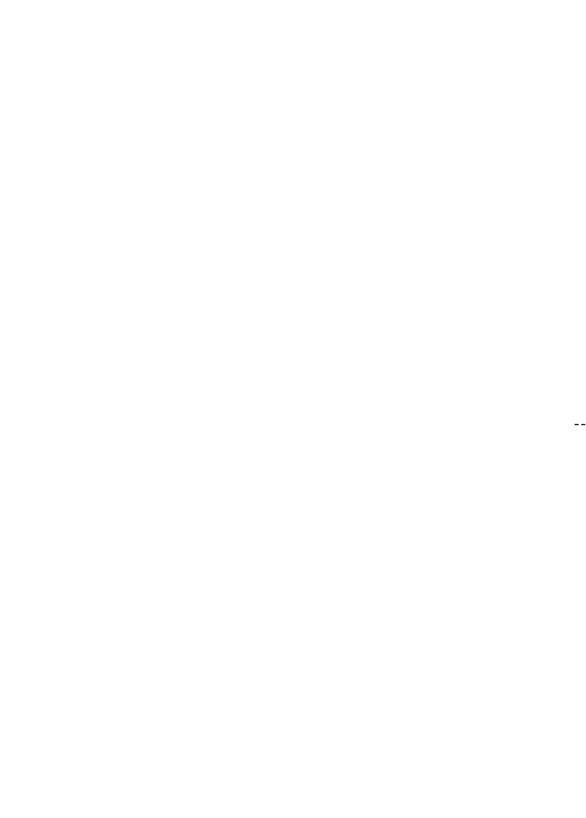
Deaf / hard of hearing or speech impaired

Emergency

- 999 Emergency SMS/Text number (Register now emergencysms.org.uk)
- 18000 Emergency Minicom/textphone number

Non-Emergency

- **3 67101Non-Emergency** SMS/Text number (Register now emergencysms.org.uk)



Disclaimer

Signing this Disclaimer is completely voluntary but failure to do so may result in your device(s) where youth produced sexual imagery may be found being seized.

Your copy

I understand why I've been provided with this booklet and have deleted all copy of the image(s) in question from all devices that I am aware of.

I understand that failure to delete any further sexual, naked or seminaked images of anyone 17 years of age or under could result in further investigation.

Name of parent / carer:

Relationship to young person:	
Officer name:	Force No.:
Disclaimer	
Police copy	
I understand why I've been provided deleted all copy of the image(s) in quaware of.	
I understand that failure to delete an naked images of anyone 17 years of further investigation.	
Name:	Date:
Name of parent / carer:	
Relationship to young person:	
Officer name:	Force No.:

Notes

Log no. / ref no.:	
Officer name / shoulder number:	