BE CHBER SMART

The internet is a great way to connect with your friends and learn new things but be careful by what you share online.

- Did you know 'sexting' can be considered a criminal offence?
- Creating or sending an indecent image of a person under 18 is a criminal offence
- If you post something publically, anyone can find it. Things you post online (including images) can be copied, saved or shared by other people.

 Never share personal information, like your address or phone number, with someone you don't know.

- Remember to keep passwords secret, even with friends. It's not funny when your online accounts get messed with.
- Personal insults, threats or discrimination online can get your into trouble with the law.



STAYING SAFE

- Don't flash your phone or cash around.
- Stick to well-lit and busy areas after dark.
- Try to walk with friends at night, not alone.
- Walk away from groups that might provoke you.
- Remember you're much more vulnerable if you're under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- In an emergency always dial 999.

USEFUL CONTACTS



Suffolk Crimestoppers Call anonymously with information about

0800 555111

FRANK

crime

For friendly, confidential advice about drugs and legal highs www.talktofrank.com

The Source

Information, advice and support for young people in Suffolk www.thesource.me.uk

Think U Know

Free and confidential help or advice on any issues, big or small, for anyone under 19 years' old www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Childline

Childline

0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

Suffolk Police

Non-emergency number: 101 www.suffolk.police.uk







IS IT A CRIME?

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) is any action that upsets someone or makes them feel frightened or intimidated.

If you're involved in ASB, police will save your name and address on their database the first time you're caught. If it happens again, or becomes a regular occurrence, there may be more serious consequences including having a criminal record.

Shouting and swearing

You don't have to damage something or hurt someone to break the law. Shouting or swearing in public might not bother your mates, but people walking nearby could become upset or scared by it.

This makes them your 'victim' and you could be reported to police.

You can also get into trouble if you use threatening words to deliberately intimidate others.

Carrying a knife

Carrying a knife can have serious consequences. Not only can you get a criminal record for simply carrying it, if you are seen by someone who reports the matter to police - or if you are stopped by officers it could affect your future prospects of travel and employment. You also risk putting yourself in greater danger.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Deliberately vandalising any property, whether that's a home, garden, place of work or vehicle is considered criminal damage. The damage does not have to be permanent, which means graffiti is classed in the same way.

Smashing windows or throwing eggs at cars, building or people are all a criminal offence, capable of causing damage and injury.

Deliberately setting fire to something, even a pile of rubbish, may seem like a harmless prank but could have serious penalties. The maximum sentence to any arson conviction is life imprisonment and will stay on a person's record for life.



SO WHAt?

Once you reach the age of 10, the law states that you understand Right from Wrong. This means if you break the law and commit an offence, you can be arrested by the police. If you do commit an offence and there is sufficient evidence of this, there are various outcomes that police can consider giving you:

- A Diversion Programme where you will work with the Youth Offending Team.
- A Community Resolution, which takes into consideration how the victim would like the matter dealt with and could be in the form of an apology, damage repair or compensation between the offender and the victim.
- A Youth Caution or Conditional Caution, which will look to provide an intervention programme to prevent further offending. If you already have a caution, the next step could be a formal charge which means you will have to attend court.

A criminal record can also affect your job prospects, including working abroad and any voluntary activities you might want to do.

If you have a criminal record, you will have difficulty in travelling to some countries – including the USA and Canada.

