

**Police message to schools re. indecent video going viral**

Dear headteacher

An indecent video containing children went viral recently. The children in the video are not from Wiltshire. However, some local secondary school students have already seen the video and it may be shared further via social media as many young people nationally viewed the video through social media; particularly Instagram and Snapchat.

This issue is being dealt with by our local police force and Salisbury Police have circulated the following message to schools in relation to this matter:

“Recently an extreme sexual image has been circulating on Instagram; if you receive this message, delete it immediately and inform your parents or a teacher – do not store it on your phone or tablet and do not send it on to friends. If you do either you will be committing an offence under Section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1978 of making or distributing indecent photographs; this offence can carry a maximum sentence of 10 years imprisonment.”

We advise you to let parents know about this and to advise them to talk to their children about what they must do if they are sent the video.

**Teresa Mcilroy**

Safeguarding Adviser -Education and Early Years (maternity cover for H el ene Schwartz)

Wiltshire Council

Bythesea Road

Trowbridge BA14 8JN