



Companions on the Journey

ONLINE GROOMING INVESTIGATION

You may have seen media coverage over the weekend regarding a

Western Australia Police investigation that has uncovered a series of online grooming offences against young people in the wider community.

I would like to reassure you that there is no indication that any of the offences took place at a school. Investigations of this nature are, however, always unsettling, and serve as an important reminder for all of us, particularly parents and carers, to be mindful of having ongoing conversations with your children regarding cyber safety.

Our school already teaches cyber safety messages through the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum. To reinforce these messages, I know you are best placed to talk to your children. I can recommend the eSafety Commissioner website as a resource that you may find helpful: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>.

The media coverage of this matter may lead to children being more aware of these types of offences and wanting to talk to you about what they have heard, or even to disclose information. If your child asks you about this matter, then calmly listen to them and what they have to say. General conversation about cyber safety is important and very healthy. If you have any further concerns or questions, relating to this matter or your child's wellbeing more broadly, please do not hesitate to contact either your child's classroom teacher or myself.

60 Victorsen Parade,
Clarkson WA 6030
Phone: (08) 6206 4100
Fax: (08) 6206 4101
Email: admin@standrews.wa.edu.au
Web: www.standrews.wa.edu.au