

MLS/ KPE

27th April 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hertfordshire Police have issued the following statement regarding an online “game” that originated in Russia, this game has been linked to around 120 teen suicides in Russia with other cases globally appearing more recently.

"The Constabulary has been notified of The Blue Whale Challenge. While there have been no incidents relating to this in Hertfordshire it is an ideal opportunity to educate and prevent."

The Blue Whale Challenge is about targeting vulnerable young persons on line and befriending them. Once their trust is gained they are set 50 challenges. These are a variety of challenges that build upon the previous in terms of risk and severity. The 50th challenge culminates in a dare to the vulnerable person to kill themselves. There have been reports of this happening."

I have shared this message with staff so they report any potential concerns to me. Please can I encourage you to take interest in your child’s internet usage and question unfamiliar games or unfamiliar contacts/friends/followers.

If you have concerns, please contact me on 01438 344344 so we can offer support within school.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Thompson

Lesley Thompson
Child Protection Officer