



**Director of Children's Services: Helen Budge**

**Children's Services**  
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**To:**

Telephone: 01595 744000  
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**Parents / Carers of Secondary Pupils**

[www.shetland.gov.uk](http://www.shetland.gov.uk)

If calling please ask for:  
**Matthew Moss**

Direct Dial: 01595 744038

Our Ref: HB/MM/sm/S40/44/12/002  
Your ref:

Date: 9 January 2012

Dear Parent / Carer of Secondary Pupil

## **Mobile Phone Use and Social Network Websites**

It has been brought to my attention by the Northern Constabulary in Shetland that a number of offences have recently been committed in Shetland under the Sexual Offences Act 2009 and the Communications Act 2003.

Investigations into these offences are ongoing and do involve school pupils under the age of 16 misusing their mobile phones and social network sites, in particular the social network site Facebook to post and subsequently pass on indecent images and sexualised texts.

The police would like to remind all young people and parents that this behaviour is criminal. It will not be tolerated and any reports received by them will be investigated fully. This could result in the seizure of any equipment, including mobile phones, hand held devices and computers. Seizure of equipment will take place regardless of who owns the equipment.

Information for young people and parents about internet safety, mobile phone use and cyber bullying is available on the following website:

<http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> .

Anyone who needs help or advice can contact the local police or alternatively can report any abuse through the national CEOP report abuse facility on the above website or through a link on MSN Messenger.

Further information for keeping your child safe online is attached.

Yours sincerely

Helen Budge  
Director of Children's Services

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