

# Safeguarding Alerts

## Counter terrorism education

Firearms or weapons attacks are thankfully rare in Devon, however in the, unlikely event of a terrorist attack being prepared and knowing how to respond is really important and may save lives. Attacks in the UK and abroad remind us all of the terrorist threat we face. Police and security agencies are working tirelessly to protect the public but it is also important that communities remain vigilant and aware of how to protect themselves if the need arises.

On 28 September 2017, 'Act For Youth campaign' launches in partnership with News UK, designed to help educate 11 to 16 year olds on how to stay safe in the event of a firearms or weapon attack. Key advice is to follow Run, Hide, and Tell guidance until police arrive on the scene, but research shows that this messaging is not always effectively reaching younger audiences.

Counter Terrorism Policing and celebrity influencers, including Bear Grylls, have been participating in activities across the country as part of the campaign launch to raise awareness amongst young people about how to stay safe.

I would encourage all parents and guardians to read through the guidance with their sons and daughters.

### **RUN**

- Escape if you can
- Consider the safest options
- Is there a safe route? RUN if not HIDE
- Can you get there without exposing yourself to greater danger?
- Insist others leave with you
- Leave belongings behind

### **HIDE**

- If you cannot RUN, HIDE
- Find cover from gunfire
- If you can see the attacker, they may be able to see you
- Cover from view does not mean you are safe, bullets go through glass, brick, wood and metal
- Find cover from gunfire e.g. substantial brickwork / heavy reinforced walls
- Be aware of your exits
- Try not to get trapped
- Be quiet, silence your phone and turn off vibrate
- Lock / barricade yourself in
- Move away from the door

### **TELL**

Call 999 - What do the police need to know? If you cannot speak or make a noise listen to the instructions given to you by the call taker:

- Location - Where are the suspects?
- Direction - Where did you last see the suspects?
- Descriptions – Describe the attacker, numbers, features, clothing, weapons etc.
- Further information – Casualties, type of injury, building information, entrances, exits, hostages etc.
- Stop other people entering the building if it is safe to do so

We would like all parents and carers to please read the following important messages;

- Drugs currently referred to as 'legal highs' (NPSs) are no longer legal.
- People consuming drugs are not aware of what they are taking and they can be extremely dangerous - they can kill.
- If anyone would like advice about drugs or alcohol, please visit [TalkToFrank.com](http://TalkToFrank.com), a website which includes useful information.
- We ask that parents remain aware of where their children are, what they are doing and who they are socialising with, particularly on social media sites, where drugs are becoming more readily available. Please encourage parents to have open and honest conversations with their children about the risks of drugs and alcohol.
- If anyone is aware of people supply drugs to young people, they can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

There is a dedicated intelligence e-mail for information on drugs which will be essential in trying to reduce the chances of this happening again. As a reminder, the e-mail is [teignbridgeyio@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:teignbridgeyio@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)

### **Snapchat introduced a new feature, the 'Snap Map'**

This location based map allows users to see where in the country their Snapchat contacts are, as well as seeing location based photos and videos. The Snap Map shows a user's Bitmoji, their cartoon avatar within Snapchat, pinpointed on a world map. Users can then zoom into the map to see the exact location of their friends.

### **How to access Snap Maps**

To access the Snap Map in the latest update of the Snapchat app, users need to go to their camera screen within Snapchat and zoom out using two fingers. This will then launch the Snap Maps screen and will allow a user to see their friend's locations.

It is important to be careful about who you share your location with, as it can allow people to build up a picture of where you live, go to school and spend your time.

Given how specific this new feature is on Snapchat - giving your location to a precise pinpoint on a map - we would encourage users not to share their location, especially with people they don't know in person.