

JG/ZM

10th July 2020



Safeguarding Information

Dear Parents/Carers,

THE BLUE WHALE CHALLENGE RESURFACES ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The Blue Whale Challenge is an online suicide game aimed at teenagers. It emerged in early 2019 and now seems to have resurfaced in 2020.

It sets 50 challenges over 50 days, with the task you have to complete rising in seriousness each day. On the last day, the challenge demands that you commit suicide, and has caused many deaths around the world.

The challenge is conducted through social media platforms, and there is usually an individual telling another person which tasks to do each day.

DO NOT TAKE PART

If you see any indication of the Blue Whale Challenge online we urge you not to take part or to share anything to do with it.

This is a new type of cyber-bullying and online criminal activity that encourages social media users to obey the rules of others online. People are being forced into doing very dangerous tasks that could even result in death.

Many administrators of the challenge are messaging people via social media, so please put your accounts onto private so that you don't receive such messages.

If you see anyone sharing #bluewhalechallenge or any related hashtags this could be a symbol that they are participating and may need assistance.

Further information can be found here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/discord-a-parents-guide/>

If you have any concerns please contact me by email jgaffney@dmsschool.co.uk or contact the school office.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Gaffney
Safeguarding Team

Learn today for life tomorrow

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