

Union Street | St Helier
Jersey | JE2 3DN

10 September 2025

Dear schools, parents, carers and students,

Mobile phones and online safety

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all schools and colleges, parents and students, for your support with the new guidance on mobile phone use for all students up to the end of Year 11, which came into effect this academic year.

These measures are designed to support children's wellbeing and help them to develop healthy digital habits. As part of our commitment to supporting young people in navigating phones and the online world safely and confidently, we are pleased to announce a series of Island-wide talks during the week beginning 15th September.

Sessions, led by Natasha Devon, will focus on phones, social media and surviving the online world and will be tailored for students from Years 4 to 13.

If your child is in Years 4 to 7, the session will include:

- How technology is designed to capture and hold their focus
- How social media/YouTube/WhatsApp makes you feel
- Building healthy digital habits including notifications, screentime and curating your feed.
- Digital sunset and sleep hygiene: making healthy choices and building routines that incorporate device-free moments.

If your child is in Years 7 to 13, the session will include:

- How to recognise and handle extreme or harmful online content.
- How to have healthy debate
- Examples of positive influencers and how choosing who you follow makes a difference.

We are also offering two parent sessions where Natasha will share practical tips for setting digital boundaries, fostering healthy tech habits, and having effective conversations with children about online life.

These sessions will take place:

- Tuesday 16th September at Jersey College for Girls
- Wednesday 17th September at Beaulieu

Both events will be streamed online and feature the same content. Spaces are limited for in-person attendance. To reserve your place, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/ND-Event>.

In addition, NSPCC Jersey will be touring Year 6 classes in primary schools, during the week of 22nd September, with a new play titled "The Net", created with input from young people, parents, and professionals. This engaging performance explores online safety and digital wellbeing in a way that is accessible and thought-provoking for younger audiences.

NSPCC will also be hosting online information sessions for parents/guardians that would like some more information about the play and support for continuing conversations about online harms at home.

I would like to thank the Safeguarding Partnership, NSPCC Jersey and schools for providing this opportunity for students.

We are also working closely with the School Council Network this term, alongside key partners, to engage students in meaningful activities around online harm and digital responsibility.

Thank you once again for your continued support in helping us create safe, focused, and inclusive learning environments for all children in Jersey.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rob Ward', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Deputy Rob Ward
Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning

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