

The NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme gives children the knowledge and understanding they need to help them stay safe from abuse and neglect.

Before the pandemic, we delivered our KS1 and KS2 assemblies face-to-face in more than 90% of all primary schools across the UK, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic the way Speak out Stay safe is delivered has had to change.

We are delighted to announce that we have launched an online version of our assemblies. With the amazing support of Ant and Dec, and with the help of our mascot Buddy, the programme provides interactive assemblies and supporting learning resources for teachers.

The programme helps children to recognise and understand abuse in all its forms, in a child friendly and age appropriate way, so they can get help if or when they need it. We help them identify trusted adults they can talk to if they're ever worried about themselves or a friend. And they learn about Childline, and how it can support them. Our work also focuses on some of the additional worries that children are experiencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The assemblies are an effective way to support your school's safeguarding duties and link directly to the curriculum. They will also help reinforce key messages about abuse and neglect as part of a school's teaching on relationships. Together they will support children to feel empowered - knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

Versions are available in British Sign Language (BSL) as well as in Welsh. An adapted version of the programme for children with special educational needs and disability (SEND) is also available.

The programme is offered at no cost to schools because we think that it is so important that all children receive these messages. We do ask all schools if they would be willing to support our work through fundraising, but this is not a requirement. If schools do choose to fundraise for us, we have a range of engaging and memorable fundraising activities available to help support this.

If you are interested in learning more about the online programme you can visit https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe or email your local Area Coordinator Sarah.Fairlamb@nspcc.co.uk for access to the resources