

BRECK FOUNDATION

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE RECLAIM THE INTERNET





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Thank you for hosting the Breck Foundation in your school

Keeping children safe, preventing future tragedies and stopping online harm is what this is all about. **In this pack, you will find more information about ways you can get involved to support our work, helpful advice on how to stay safe and post-session lesson plans.**

Our organisation was founded in 2014 by Lorin LaFave Gordon in response to the tragic loss of her son Breck Bednar, a 14-year-old boy who was groomed and murdered by an online predator. Our work aims to prevent this from ever happening again - our work saves lives.

We are a Southeast England-based charity with national relevance and impact. We reach thousands of children and young people in schools and other community settings with Breck's story every year. Our talks and educational materials fill a gap in the current UK curriculum that otherwise leaves children vulnerable to online grooming and exploitation. We take a whole community approach, working also with teachers, school support staff, parents, private sector employees and the wider UK public to create a network of digital champions – adults we empower to take effective action to protect the wellbeing and lives of young people.

We have crafted the lived experience of the online grooming and murder of Breck Bednar into a powerful session that is gripping, moving and effective in ways other online safety talks aren't. We deliver our unique lifesaving talk to conferences, corporate organisations and community groups all across the UK - **why not recommend us to an organisation you know?**

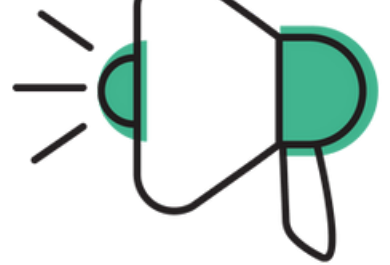
We do more than educate; we bring a unique perspective when we work with policymakers across all levels of government and technology companies to create more robust digital policies and practices that put young people's safety first.

With 98% of young people now active internet users, current and future generations grow up having to navigate new and evolving digital dangers. **We are committed to making the internet a place where children can live, play and thrive in safety.**

We are helping young people reclaim the internet.

Thank you and all the best,

ERICA THORNTON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, BRECK FOUNDATION

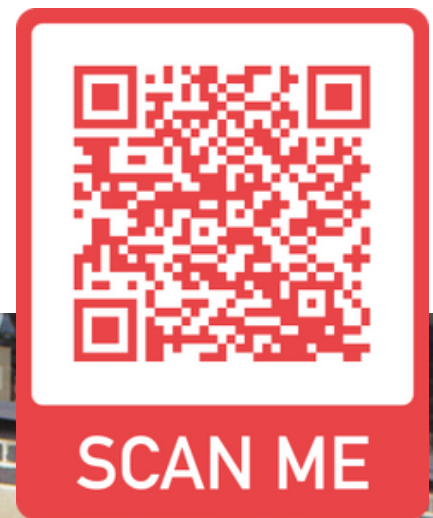


Become our BFF and support our work

Our amazing regular sponsors, known as our Breck Foundation Friends, or our BFFs, make our work possible. Join our incredible group of BFFs and be a part of the journey to reclaim the internet.

Help us reach more schools and be a part of keeping children safe.

To sign up to be our BFF please scan this QR code or visit www.breckfoundation.org/bff



PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING MONTHLY

£3

goes towards the development of new resources that let children learn how to be safe online

£5

protect a whole class of primary school children every year with online safety lessons

£10

*a month

can fund the 'online safety' education of 40 trainee teachers to spot the signs of grooming in their pupils

*"I learnt that on the internet, you have to be cautious because behind the microphone you might not be seeing the real person."
Alice, age 10**

*this quote has been anonymised



Signs of grooming you may spot in a child

It is worth noting that some of these signs have other causes, but a selection of them seen together indicates grooming and that intervention is needed.

Behaviour change	Anxious, depressed, withdrawn, angry or defiant
Gifts or freebies	The child may not be able to explain why they have them
Isolation	Groomers isolate a child, but a child may also pull away from friends, family, hobbies etc
Control and manipulation	Child not acting with free will
Sexualised behaviour	Sudden inappropriate language/actions
Risk-taking	Unable to see or acknowledge risks, such as meeting up/giving personal info
Secrecy	Child may be told to keep a relationship secret, but may also hide devices or content, or lock him/herself away in a room to avoid questions





Where to find help

The Breck Foundation is an online grooming education and preventative charity, these are some of the organisations, agencies and charities they recommend. In an emergency, you should always call the Police on 999.

Websites to go to for urgent help

childline

ONLINE,
ON THE PHONE,
ANYTIME
childline.org.uk
0800 1111

www.childline.org.uk

Childline is a counselling service for anyone under 19 in the UK. It can help with any issue, any time of day or night. Call 0800 111111 or visit the webpage.



www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/

Breck Foundation's partners at CEOP (the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command) are the online police and are part of the UK's National Crime Agency.



Nude image of you online?
We can help take it down.

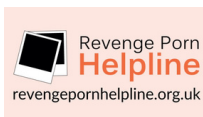
www.iwf.org.uk/our-technology/report-remove/

A brilliant service from NSPCC and IWF, Report Remove helps young people whose nude selfies have been shared online, and will work quickly to help get them taken down.



www.iwf.org.uk

If you see any criminal sexual content online you can report it anonymously to the Internet Watch Foundation.



www.revengepornhelpline.org.uk

Revenge Porn Helpline - 0345 6000 459 | Revenge Porn Helpline
A UK service that supports adults (aged 18+) who are experiencing intimate image abuse. They offer advice, information, and offer support through various reporting options. This also includes anonymous reports.




www.thecyberhelpline.com

A confidential helpline and self-help service for victims of online crime, including cybercrime, digital fraud and online harm.



Where to find help

More information on internet safety issues and how to solve them

 **www.internetmatters.org** Internet Matters is a well-resourced organisation helping parents keep their children safe online. Find information on everything from setting controls on consoles to issues around cyberbullying.



www.ceopeducation.co.uk

This is the educational branch of CEOP and has dedicated portions of its website for young people of different ages.



www.crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless

Fearless is a site where you can access advice about crime and criminality, they provide a safe place to give information to us about crime - 100% anonymously.



www.nspcc.org.uk

NSPCC is a large charity fighting to stop child abuse on and offline. They have a helpline available for adults on 0808 800 5000.



www.saferinternet.org.uk

UK Safer Internet Centre promotes the safe and responsible use of technology for young people.



www.taminggaming.com/en-gb/home

This fantastic resource reviews and explains video games for parents and also suggests alternatives from its vast database.



www.common sense media.org

A site reviewing video games and films – with input from parents and young people.



www.parentzone.org.uk

Parent Zone offers free services and resources to parents, families and professionals about how to engage children in internet safety.

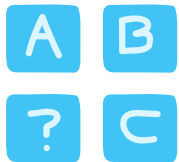


What to do if a child reveals abuse/exploitation

If a child is in immediate danger please make sure to call the police on 999 as soon as you can



Listen: let the child talk without expressing your own views and feelings, make sure not to seem shocked or as if you don't believe them as this might make them stop talking



Give them the words to use: if they are struggling to explain what is happening prompt them by asking questions that show the signs of grooming such as 'do they want to keep your friendship secret?' / 'are they asking to meet you in person alone?'



Reassure them and remind them its not their fault: let the child know they have done the right thing by telling you and that what is happening to them is not their fault



Make sure they know you are taking them seriously: children and young people keep abuse secret because they do not think they will be trusted and believed



Do not take matters into your own hands and confront the perpetrator: this might inadvertently make it worse for the child



Explain to the child what you are going to do next: let them know that you have to report it to someone who can provide help



Report what the child has told you as soon as possible: make sure to be as accurate as possible - visit www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/report/ or **call the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000**



Fundraise with us

Organised challenge events

Want to take on a physical challenge whilst supporting the amazing work we do?

Getting involved in an organised adventure is the best way to do this! We always have spaces in organised challenges and adventures such as marathons and cycles for you to choose from! Find out what challenges we currently have available at www.breckfoundation.org/fundraising

You don't have to do the runs, walks and cycles that we organise, you can sign up for any run, swim, cycle or hike challenge you like and raise money! Make sure to let us know at events@breckfoundation.org so we can send you a t-shirt and help you with your fundraising page.

Your own fundraising idea

Don't feel you have to push yourself to extreme physical limits to fundraise, there are so many ways you could help support our work:

- Bake sale & coffee morning
- Games night (board games or video games)
- Dinner party
- Bungee jump
- Sky dive
- Car wash

*a recent fundraising poker night
run by brilliant
Breck fundraisers!*



Want more help and advice about fundraising? Scan this QR code to **download our fundraising pack** or visit www.breckfoundation.org/fundraising



Volunteer with us

We are all digital citizens in the world of the internet, so we all have our part to play in making sure it is a safe place for children. Join our mission by volunteering today. The work you do could save a life.

Become a Breck Speaker

Do you have experience delivering lessons to children and young people? Are you a good public speaker with a passion for making sure the next generation are safe from online harm?

Volunteer to share Breck's story as part of our free programme for schools. If you are interested please email admin@breckfoundation.org for more information.

Learn more about our speaker sessions on our website
www.breckfoundation.org/speaker-sessions

Translate our resources

We want to make sure all our resources are as accessible as possible so that we can make sure all children have the chance to learn important online safety lessons.

We would love to be able to provide our resources in multiple languages, braille, BSL videos/pictures and makaton.

If you think you could help us translate our resources, lesson plans and presentations please do let us know by emailing admin@breckfoundation.org.

Support our events

Throughout the year we run a whole host of fundraising and networking events. We are always looking for more help and support to make these events the best they can be!

If you are interested in volunteering at our events please send an email to events@breckfoundation.org with a little bit about yourself.

No matter what your skills or availability are, there is a role for you!

We cannot wait to have you on the team!



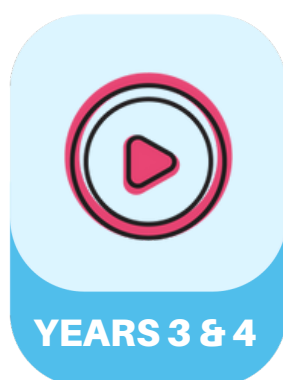
Post session resources

We have downloadable resources for teachers to use with their classes after our in-school presentations.

These include activities and ideas for lessons which reinforce the online safety messages we talk about in our sessions. Please click on the age-appropriate link below to download a resource pack - if the links are not working please visit:

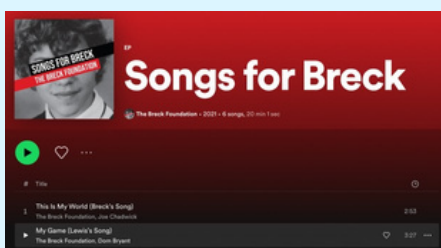
<https://www.breckfoundation.org/breck-resources> (and find 'teacher resources')

If you have any questions about the content of the pack please do get in touch.



Other resources

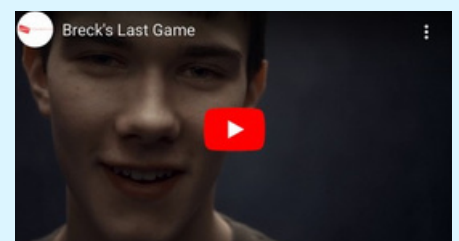
All these resources can be found at www.breckfoundation.org/breck-resources



**MUSIC
RESOURCES**



**S.E.N.D
RESOURCES**



**VIDEO
RESOURCES**



Resources for SEND that we recommend

Support for young people

- [Resources | Childnet](#)
- [Symbols based SMART rules | Childnet](#)
- [Be Safe and Smart Online | Childnet](#) - Created in partnership with The National Deaf Children's Society
- [staying-safe-online.pdf \(theriseschool.com\)](#)
- [Index of Online Harms | Internet Matters](#)
- [Online safety for children with SEND | NSPCC](#)

Support for teachers

- [Know IT All for Teachers - SEN | Childnet](#) - Online safety advice and tools for teachers and professionals working with SEN pupils.
- [STAR SEND Toolkit | Childnet](#) An online safety teaching toolkit for educators to deliver with young people aged 11-16 with special educational needs and disabilities.
- [Watch Maya's Story](#) with a child in your care to see how abusers can try to manipulate young people online. It will help them understand that they should tell a trusted adult, who will help them block and report the perpetrator. For accessibility, watch the [British Sign Language version](#). A [voiceover-only](#) version of the film is also available to view online. [IWF-Lesson-Plan.pdf](#) - lesson plan to use alongside the video,
- <https://saferinternet.org.uk/send>

Support for parents and carers

- [Supporting children and young with SEND online | Internet Matters](#)
- [Learning Disabilities, Autism and Internet Safety - Cerebra](#)
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Internet-Matters-Guide-supporting-children-with-send-connecting-and-sharing-online-2.pdf>
- <https://saferinternet.org.uk/send>

Drama-based learning

Our powerful play, Game Over:

Game Over is a dramatisation of Breck's story written by the award-winning playwright Mark Wheeler. It is written for older secondary pupils.

If you would like to stage a production of Game Over, we can offer different levels of support ranging from pre-production workshops to full gala performances for other local schools with in-person sessions from Lorin LaFave Gordon, Breck's mother.

To find out more about Game Over see the BBC News report on Game Over's premiere at Beaumont School in 2019 by [clicking here](#).

Please contact us at admin@breckfoundation.org for a more detailed summary of what we can offer.



Students from Harrow schools performing Game Over

100%

of the audience surveyed at a 'Game Over' production said that the play would inspire them to talk to their children about grooming and internet safety.

Questions your class may ask

We try to give as much time to questions as we can. We know that sometimes these questions come to children after they have had some time to think about it. To support you in answering these questions, here are some of our FAQs.

How did Breck die? How did Lewis kill Breck?

This is one that we never answer for primary or secondary, though this is up to your discretion. Usually, we say that we don't talk about the detail because it can be upsetting for some people to hear what happened/ out of respect from Breck's family.

Why did Lewis kill Breck?

Another regular one and a tough one. We say that honestly, we don't know. We are not psychologists so we can't see into Lewis's head. What we can say is that he clearly did not value life in the way that you and I do, and that he made some very bad choices that took him down a very bad path. You can add that in doing so, he has thrown away his own life as well as Breck's, because he is now in prison, and could have had a successful career instead.

Why do people groom other people?

Some people are unkind and make bad choices. For someone to deliberately try to control or hurt someone is bad and unkind and I don't know why they do it. What's important though, is that we now know how to spot those people and keep ourselves safe. Again, this answer depends on age. If this is a secondary age question, then we can talk about bad intentions.

How did Lewis know where Breck lived?

For this, you can talk about the fact that Breck and Lewis talked together for a year, so Breck had dropped his guard, even though he didn't know Lewis properly. Talking about how our guards drop when we're gaming because we are distracted, or mentioning how groomers are clever at finding out info may also be appropriate. Breck obviously gave his personal information to Lewis which often causes wide eyes and horror at primary level because it has been drummed into them not to do that. Breck thought Lewis was his friend, so he thought it was OK.

Did Lewis have any relatives or parents? Did they know what he was doing?

Emphasise that Lewis was an adult (at 18) and lived alone. His background was chaotic but that does not excuse what happened or what he did. His parents were not involved and did not know what he was doing.



admin@breckfoundation.org

www.breckfoundation.org



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