

The Cleveland Police Crime Prevention Co-ordinator has asked us to circulate the email below to our parents:

In 2018 just over 6000 people in the UK under the age of 21 were involved in 'money muling', and this figure is set to rise.

Money muling is a form of laundering money for organised criminal gangs through the banking service to clean it before it goes into a legitimate account. Criminal gangs are actively targeting students for use of their bank accounts to enable this. They do this predominantly through social media, promoting a glamorous lifestyle for very little effort. They also advertise jobs such as money transfer agents or local financial processors. In all cases they are looking to get access to a bank account to filter money through. If caught involved in these schemes the consequences can be devastating for the student involved, if convicted of money laundering it carries a prison sentence of up to 14 years, the students bank account will be suspended and they will not be able to access any financial services for 7 years.

This week is International Fraud Awareness Week, as part of this we are trying to get the message to as many students as possible the seriousness and implications of being involved in this.

I have attached electronic copies of the 'Don't be Fooled' campaign and if possible could you display these in whatever format you are able. We have also prepared a 10 minute video on YouTube explaining what the problem is and how to avoid it, would it be possible for this to be shown to your students in tutorial groups. There is also an excellent short video by Cifas showing a trafficked child's perspective on money muling. I have attached the links for both.

Thank you so much for your assistance in this, if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

<https://youtu.be/qHinINRLXsY>
<https://youtu.be/qHinINRLXsY>

Kelly

Kelly Close
Crime Prevention Co-Ordinator
Colleges & Universities Crime Reduction
Middlesbrough Police HQ
Mobile 07525410652

Telephone: 01642 303172 Ext: 3172