

## Safeguarding During Lockdown

Here at tootoot, we are proud to be helping schools maintain their high standards of safeguarding and pupil wellbeing under any circumstances. It's doubly reassuring to know that even during lockdown tootoot is being used by young people around the world to discreetly and confidentially, disclose concerns and issues directly to the best people positioned to do something about it: teachers.

It is no surprise that there have been some noticeable changes in the general trends of the types of cases that are being reported to schools while students have been, in the main, home-schooling for much of 2020.

While disclosures of physical bullying and behavioural concerns have dropped significantly, there has been a large increase in reported instances of cyberbullying, domestic issues, mental health concerns, stress and anxiety.

Moreover, tootoot helped to resolve several high-risk cases during 2020 and while it can be concerning to see reports of this nature coming to light, at least they ARE coming to light and these cases are being resolved, with the young person in each case getting the help they need.

Top Ten Resolved Categories During 2020	Difference vs. avg per year
Friendship Issues	-5%
Behaviour	-3%
Cyberbullying	+74%
Issues at home	+35%
Bullying	-57%
Cause for Concern	-30%
Mental Health	+61%
Stress/Anxiety	+36%
Inappropriate Language	-51%
eSafety	+29%

High-Risk Cases Resolved During Lockdown

Abuse

Knife Crime

Child Protection

Sexual Abuse

Hate Crime

Self Harm

Physical Abuse

Suicide

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Students of all ages have been using tootoot to voice concerns during this time. Here is a breakdown of numbers of cases raised by each year group last year:

This table illustrates how easy and accessible tootoot is for young people, that even children as young as five years old can use it to speak up and get the help and support they need.

Pulling optional student data into your tootoot account such as ethnicity, gender, SEN, Pupil Premium and so on can provide so much more detail and insights for your Safeguarding team. Identifying potentially vulnerable subgroups of students and ensuring appropriate support is put in place to help them.

It's reassuring to know that regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or background, young people are, now more than ever, comfortable to raise concerns directly to their place of learning.

Low Chance of Reporting

Mid Chance of Reporting

High Chance of Reporting

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Year Group	Age Range	# of Disclosures	% of Total Cases
1	5 to 6	9	0.53%
2	6 to 7	10	0.59%
3	7 to 8	44	2.60%
4	8 to 9	77	4.56%
5	9 to 10	115	6.80%
6	10 to 11	128	7.57%
7	11 to 12	335	19.82%
8	12 to 13	306	18.11%
9	13 to 14	250	14.79%
10	14 to 15	155	9.17%
11	15 to 16	124	7.34%
12	16 to 17	29	1.72%
Other	18+	108	6.39%
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## Testimonials

"We had an unexpected success with tootoot... a student orchestrated a very serious DDOS attack through his hacker friends around the world. The kid is a bit of a lone wolf and it was only a tip off via tootoot that alerted us and enabled us to restore the internet after nearly three days of outage and incredible disruption to learning and general business ops. It has paid for itself after only a month! It shows how important it is for students to have that outlet for other issues too!"

Assistant Head
International Secondary School

"Tootoot has been used by a range of students to let adults know information about occasions or instances of unkind behaviour or words towards pupils. Tootoot is a safe and anonymous platform that has encouraged pupils to report and hence alert staff to any early signs of bullying behaviour between children which means that the school can respond and stop bullying behaviour early."

**Teacher**Castlewood Primary Schoo

"Tootoot saves us so much time. Children are able to share their worries much more quickly which means we can deal with them before they develop into a more serious problem.

Bullying – by it's nature – relies on secrecy and often the complicity of others. Tootoot means anyone can expose bullying behaviour in a way that feels safe."

Vice Principal

Jubilee Academ

"A frightened child reported on tootoot they were scared of dying and not knowing what will happen to them when they die. They didn't want to speak to their parents as the family were involved closely with a child bereavement. The child told their teacher on tootoot and the pastoral manager was informed. 1 to 1 meetings were set up as well as an 'open door' for the child. Parents were also informed and involved too. The child was really appreciative and made a special gift for the pastoral manager to say 'thank you'! Whilst this is not a bullying issue, it shows how tootoot can be used to address other parts of a child's welfare and safeguarding."

Anonymous

UK Primary School

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As lockdown pressures begin to ease and the world returns to some form of normality, the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people will continue to be one of the highest priorities for schools, Trusts, Foundations and Local Authorities. Having a system in place like tootoot and tootmood helps to continue to provide early intervention support. Safeguarding data enables senior staff to identify trends and challenges, affecting the wellbeing and engagement of children and young people in real-time. This data in turn empowers and informs interventions and program work, creating an inclusive environment of support.

With a significant rise in the concerns relating to the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people, never has there been a more important time to continue to invest in tools and interventions like tootoot and tootmood. In the last 12 months there has been a 61% increase in mental health related reports via tootoot. With children and young people being isolated for so long, this stat is only going to increase.

By having tootoot in place, young people have a trusted and confidential way to raise concerns affecting their wellbeing with those who are able to provide targeted support. For many young people it is going to be difficult to adjust back into the routine of school life, and so it is important that we continue to encourage children and young people to talk about their concerns.

61%

Increase in mental health related reports via tootoot

To find out more about how tootoot can help support the students and staff in your school, or to book a demonstration with one of our team, please contact us on 01289 541991 or visit our website at www.tootoot.co.uk.