

## The Blue Whale

Below is a section from the Safer School and Young Person Partnership E-bulletin which is compiled by PC Liz Stanton MBE (Cheshire Constabulary). This has been brought to their attention via colleagues from Leeds, who have circulated to all their schools a warning about a new dangerous game that has hit social media called "The Blue Whale". It is important that you are aware of potentially what is trending.

The Blue Whale is a dangerous game that is popular at the moment in Russia and spreading across Eastern Europe. The game is played online and spreads through social media.

Players are appointed a "master/teacher" and these "masters/teachers" challenge the players in stages, to tattoo a Blue Whale somewhere on the body, usually the arm or the leg. As the game goes on, the players are encouraged to self-harm and the final challenge is to commit suicide.

All these actions have to be filmed and shared via social media to the so called "master/teacher". The game is being played by children of all ages, some as young as primary age, but predominantly by teenagers.

This obviously sets a worrying trend and the game has already been mentioned at a school in Leeds.

Please do feedback if you hear of any information in relation to this game so that this can be passed on to the Warrington Safeguarding Team, who will also pass it onto the Police.

Thank you.