ROCU WEST MIDLANDS REGION | CYBER CRIME UNIT

Edition #5

Bytesize News

A bright young teenager who had a keen and developing interest in IT, but was unaware of how to keep themself safe online, was successfully encouraged to explore new opportunities in Comupter Science.

Teachers at a secondary school were becoming increasingly concerned about a pupil who said they could hack into the school network. The student required close supervision when using laptops, yet despite this, they still attempted to download alternative browsers.

When asked if they knew that their actions could install viruses or malware, they revealed they practiced their technical skills at home on their own computer, Raspberry Pi and mobile phone, before trying them at school.

To support and guide the student, the Cyber Choices Prevent team met with them and began discussing multiple topics, such as online safety and the Computer Misuse Act.

The student engaged well with the Cyber Choices Prevent Team. They proceeded to meet a further two times to talk about the ethical use of technology, and the student completed online packages to reinforce their learning.

Due to the student's passion for IT, the Cyber Choices Team introduced them to websites and courses to develop their skills in ethical hacking. As a result, the student wishes to undertake a GCSE in Computer Science.

The school are pleased the risk and threat of illegal cyber activity by the student has been reduced, and the student has a promising future with new studies.

More info: https://www.wmcyber.org/prevent/
For referrals: cyberchoices@westmidlands.police.uk