

TAKING A STAND

INSTRUCTION

For this activity you will need:
Printouts of:
Factsheet - Raising Awareness

For the young people (find in the resources section):
Printouts X how many in your group:

- Friends Against Scams Certificate.

Congratulations. You all now have what it takes to be a Friend Against Scams and it is time for you to take action!

1. What Is Friends Against Scams?

Friends Against Scams is a National Trading Standards Scams Team initiative which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams by empowering communities to... 'Take a Stand Against Scams'

Friends Against Scams is designed to inspire action, highlight the scale of the problem, change the perceptions of why people fall for scams and make scams a community, regional and national topic.

With your increased knowledge and awareness from the activities we have been doing, you can help make scams part of everyday conversations by talking to your family, friends and neighbours. This will enable them to protect themselves, and in turn others by continuing to spread the word.

Anyone can be a Friend Against Scams and make a difference in their own way.

2. Print out certificates and give one to each young person and helper.

The Friends Against Scams team have pledged to make one million fiends by 2020. The training you have completed will enable all the young people you have taught to become 'Friends'. We have provided a certificate that you can hand out to the Young Friends that have completed this course and we would like to add them to our counter to demonstrate the value of the 'Friends' initiative.

Once you have undertaken a training session, could you please ensure that you either add the numbers to our counter via your Scamchampion account (if you have one) or alternatively, please email the numbers of young people you have trained to friendsagainstscams@surreycc.gov.uk and the team will ensure they add these to the counter on the Friends website.

3. Sign up as a Friends Against Scams Organisation

You can sign up a section up or group as a whole, its up to you. Sign up here: www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/how-you-can-help. Either sign up whilst at your session if you have IT access or sign up beforehand so you can print off the certificate to show the young people and pin it to your noticeboard.

4. Think of ways you can raise awareness about scams.

Make a pledge to take action. See page 2.



RAISING AWARENESS

For 10-15 minutes individually/in groups at the end of the session:

- Design a poster to display in the window of your home to show your neighbours that you are part of Friends Against Scams and to promote the initiative
- Come up with a list of things you can do in your own time to help raise awareness of scams and Friends Against Scams. For example, agree to go and visit their grandparents/ elderly neighbours and talk to them about what you have learnt about scams and what everyone can do to protect themselves
- Make up your own safety code for keeping yourself safe from scams or for helping others to keep themselves safe from scams both in person and online

Over the next session or longer as a group/section look at doing a larger awareness campaign. Start generating ideas and a plan now. Some suggestions to get you started:

- Produce a play/show to present at a local residential home/ AgeUK group about scams and promote Friends Against Scams
- Produce a video explaining scams and how you can protect yourself and help others from being scammed - this could be shown to parents, other sections in your group or other community groups
- Arrange a visit to a local meeting place for elderly people and talk to them about scams and ways they can help protect themselves including giving them 'no cold callers stickers'. This could be through making contact with your local Age UK drop-in group
- Encourage friends and family to become Scam Marshals and send any scam mail that they receive into the National Tradings Standards Scams team for investigation. More information can be found at www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/ScamMarshals. Scam Marshals are also encouraged to talk to people about scams to raise awareness within their community.
- Promote Friends Against Scams to friends- tell your school friends/ teachers what you have learnt
- Campaign for change - write to your local MP and Councillors asking them to promote scams awareness
- Social media/ online promotion - create a page on your groups website promoting your work as a Friends Against Scam Organisation (remember to put a direct link to the Friends Against Scams website so visitors to your site can sign up themselves - www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk) put it on your group's Facebook page and/or tweet about your activities #ScamAware #DontMissATrick #FriendsAgainstScams
- Make papier-mache flower pots with shredded scam mail and fill with soil and flowers to give to grandparents or neighbours to act as a talking point about scams