



Cybersmart supports National Child Protection Week

Students from International Grammar School, Sydney, participating in Cybersmart Detectives.

The ACMA marked National Child Protection Week in September by hosting Cybersmart Detectives activities and Cybersafety Outreach presentations in schools across Australia.

National Child Protection Week is an annual campaign that aims to raise awareness in the community of child abuse prevention. This year the campaign was held from 5 to 11 September.

During the week, more than 550 students participated in the Cybersmart Detectives activity, which was supported by police, teachers and online safety experts from around Australia. The highly successful Cybersafety Outreach program further supported National Child Protection Week with more than 50 cybersafety presentations to students, parents and teachers to help raise awareness about online safety and ways to handle issues.

Cybersmart Detectives presents children with an internet-themed scenario they can relate to—which helps them to learn about staying safe while having fun.

‘The internet offers an exciting world of opportunity for young people. However, it can also expose children to very real risks,’ said Chris Chapman, Chairman of the ACMA. ‘While many are aware of cybersafety risks, there is evidence that some young people deliberately engage in risky behaviour and that the tendency to do this rises with age.

‘Cybersmart Detectives educates children about these risks—and how to address them—in an engaging way. The activity helps children learn the skills they need to keep safe and make sound decisions online. Cybersmart Detectives presents children with an internet-themed scenario they can relate to—which helps them to learn about staying safe while having fun,’ he said.

‘The ACMA’s Cybersafety Outreach presentations are another effective tool in helping to communicate key cybersafety messages, with the program already reaching over 100,000 students, staff and parents this year.’

Cybersmart Detectives is a popular activity with teachers and students alike as it presents a very real scenario to students, in a safe school environment. To date, more than 15,000 students have participated in the activity. 📱

Schools can register to be involved in the ACMA’s cybersafety activities through the Cybersmart website at www.cybersmart.gov.au.

National Child Protection Week is an initiative of the National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN). To find out more, visit www.napcan.org.au.