

# Murder Games

## The Life and Death of Breck Bednar

### Clip 2: Something doesn't feel right

Themes: grooming, online relationships, personal safety, getting help

Watch **Clip 2, Something doesn't feel right**, alongside the **Student Notes** for this film

### Activity 1: Worried about a friend?

After viewing the clip, ask students to divide into small discussion groups and list together the changes that Breck's friends and family noticed in him, and feedback to a whole class discussion.

Students should also think about the warning signs that weren't present in this case, but are also important to watch out for in their friends.

These are some common behaviours you might notice if a young person is being groomed:

**Secretive:** Becoming increasingly secretive about what they are doing or who they are talking to. Abusers will try to make sure no one else finds out what they are doing. An abuser may suggest no one else would understand or that their victim will get in trouble if they do tell someone.

**24/7:** They are constantly glued to their phone, computer or social networks, and become very worried or anxious if they can't check them. We all like to stay in touch online, but it can also be a sign that someone is controlling them.

**Mood changes:** A change in emotional state or personality - becoming sad, withdrawn, distant or emotionally volatile without saying why. There are lots of reasons why this could happen but someone trying to control them could be one of them.

**Gifts:** Receiving unexplained gifts or new possessions that can't be accounted for, or vague talk about a new friend without offering much further information.

**Someone older:** Mentioning someone older. An abuser may try to persuade a child that they are in a relationship and that they are their boyfriend or girlfriend. This can make it difficult for someone to recognise that they are being groomed.

## Teachers: Key themes and questions

You should always assume that some children in your class may have experienced behaviours similar to those being discussed. Therefore, it is not appropriate to ask how they might feel personally, but rather how they think Breck might have felt, his friends might have felt, or someone of a similar age might have felt. Useful questions might include:

### How did Breck change?

- What did Breck's friends notice about him?
- What did his parents notice about him?
- What are the warning signs that a friend might be being groomed?
- Why might it be hard for someone to tell if they are being groomed?
- Why are relationships with older people a bad idea?

### Reporting abuse

- What could Breck's friends have said to him to try to help him?
- Who could Breck's friends have told?
- What resources are there for you to report concerning behaviour online?
- What should you do if you suspect someone is being groomed?

## Sources of help and advice

**CEOP - The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre** is the UK's national law enforcement agency that focuses on tackling the sexual abuse of children. They have a facility for reporting abuse directly via the CLICK CEOP button on their website.

[ceop.police.uk](http://ceop.police.uk)

### **CEOP Thinkuknow**

Thinkuknow is an education initiative by CEOP providing a wide range of resources for young people and those who work with them.

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

### **ChildLine**

Free helpline and website for young people who are worried about anything, including grooming and exploitation.

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

Call 0800 1111 (this number will not show up on a phone bill)

### **The Breck Foundation**

Raises awareness about playing safe whilst using the internet. A resource for parents and children to "Play Virtual / Live Real."

[www.breckbednar.com](http://www.breckbednar.com)

### **Victim Support You & Co**

Victim Support's youth programme that helps young people cope with the impact and effects of crime.

[www.youandco.org.uk](http://www.youandco.org.uk)

### **Stop It Now!**

A campaign by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation aimed at preventing child sexual abuse.

[www.stopitnow.org.uk](http://www.stopitnow.org.uk)