

E-Safety

It's important to remember that the legal age to have an account on most social media - Instagram, Facebook, Youtube, Snapchat - is 13 years old.

E-safety is the safe use of information systems and electronic communications, including the internet, mobile phones and games consoles. E-safety is an integral part of children's education in today's digital world and is embedded in their learning at school. We also want to help our parents and children improve their own understanding of e-safety issues so they can learn to use the internet and all digital media in a safe and secure way. We can be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with parents to ensure the e-Safety message is consistent. It is important that parents speak to their children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online.

At Home

As a parent you'll know how important the internet is to children - they use it to learn, play, socialise and express themselves. It's a highly creative place of amazing opportunities. But the technology children use every day can seem a bit daunting and you might worry about the risks your child can face online - such as bullying, contact from strangers or the possibility of them seeing illegal or inappropriate content. Parents are advised to set the security levels within Internet browsers with this in mind. Locating the computer or tablet in a family area, not a bedroom, will enable you to supervise children as they use the Internet. However, don't deny your child the opportunity to learn from the wide variety of material and games available on the Internet. Instead, set some simple rules for keeping them safe and make sure they understand the importance of these rules.

To keep your child safe they should:

- Ask permission before using the Internet
- Only use websites you have chosen together or a child friendly search engine.
- Only email people they know (why not consider setting up an address book?)
- Ask permission before opening an email sent by someone they don't know
- Do not use Internet chat rooms
- Do not use their real name when using games on the Internet (create a nick name)
- Never give out a home address, phone or mobile number
- Never tell someone where they go to school
- Never arrange to meet someone they have 'met' on the Internet
- Only use a webcam with people they know
- Ask them to tell you immediately if they see anything they are unhappy with.

Engage with your children regarding their use of the internet while at home. Here are some conversation starter ideas from www.childnet.com

- Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.

- Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?
- Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use.
- Encourage them to help. Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend who would benefit from their help and support.
- Think about how you use the internet as a family. What could you do to get more out of the internet together and further enjoy your lives online

Parent Resources

To try and help parents with the fast moving and changing world of internet and social media we've suggested a few internet sites below which are fantastic resources. They contain information on different types of social media and how to help keep children safe.

At School

As part of your child's curriculum and the development of computer skills, we provide access to the internet only in teacher supervised lessons. We strongly believe that the use of the web is hugely worthwhile and an essential tool for children as they grow up in the modern world. But because there are always concerns about children having access to undesirable materials, we have taken positive steps to deal with this risk in school. Our school internet access provider operates a filtering system that restricts access to inappropriate materials.

At the start of the school year, each class discusses how we can all stay safe online and the dangers we may face on the internet. We then ask every child in KS2 to sign an ICT Acceptable Use Agreement so that we know they have read and understood our school's rules on staying safe.

Websites and resources to support you in keeping your children safe online:

NSPCC:

NSPCC provides simple, practical advice through resources such as Net Aware, your guide to the latest social networks, apps, and games kids are using.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/about-us/partners/nspcc-o2-online-safety-partnership/>

CEOP:

CEOP (The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) delivers a multi-agency service dedicated to tackling the abuse and exploitation of children in the real and 'e' world. Often it is referred to as an online 999. By clicking on the button, young people and parents can get advice on a range of issues such as viruses, hacking and dealing with bullying online.

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>



Childnet:

Childnet offers advice on how to talk to your child about their online life and manage boundaries, setting parental controls and much more.

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

Vodafone:

Vodafone have produced a Digital Parenting Magazine which informs parents about the various technologies children are accessing today. There is information on Facebook settings, Xbox 360 settings, Blackberry settings, jargon busting and many more 'How to Guides'. <https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting>

Internet Matters:

Internet Matters is an online portal designed for parents to access simple, easy and practical advice about online safety for their children, right through from pre-school to teens. It provides tips on protecting children from online grooming, cyberbullying, privacy and identity theft and inappropriate content. Internet Matters is a not-for profit organisation set up by BT, Sky, TalkTalk and Virgin Media.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

ParentINFO:

ParentINFO is a collaboration between ParentZone and CEOP. There are useful guides and articles on helping your child stay safe online.

<https://parentinfo.org/>

Breck Foundation:

The Breck Foundation is a self-funding charity, raising awareness of playing safe whilst using the internet. It was established following the death of a young boy called Breck who was groomed online.

<http://www.breckfoundation.org/>