

Internet Safety

It is important that students are aware of how to safely use the internet and to ensure that they are also aware of the risks and dangers.

Please talk with your child about staying safe online by:

- ✓ Talking about what apps or sites they use and how they use them. Encourage your child to tell you if they see something they find worrying or upsetting.
- ✓ Making sure they know how to report inappropriate content or messages on the apps they use, how to block someone, and how to keep their information private.
- ✓ Telling your child not to give out any personal information or anything that can identify them or their location, such as their school name or street name.

The NSPCC has more guidance for parents on this here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventingabuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-your-child-staying-safe-online/>

Social Media Safety

- Don't post information that is very personal.
- Think carefully about posting pictures online – once it's there, anyone can see it or use it.
- Don't share your passwords – keep your personal information private.
- Don't add or meet up with anyone you meet online – you don't know who they are.
- Try to think carefully before you write things online.



Online Gaming

Games can be played against anyone in the world, at any time and for as long as you want. Online, you can adventure in complex worlds, create characters, and meet and make friends to fight battles and go on journeys together. Almost anything that connects to the internet will allow you to play these games – desktop computers, laptops, consoles, like PlayStation or Xbox, or even mobile phones.

Helping your child to game safely:

- ✓ Check the Age Rating of the Game
- ✓ Talk to your child about the games they play: What do they like about the game? Who are they playing it with?
- ✓ Look for the game's advice for parents and carers and assess the games appropriateness: www.askaboutgames.com. This website will also give you family reviews of games.
- ✓ Know who they're talking to (online games are played by adults and children alike)
- ✓ Be aware of the information that they share and who they talk to
- ✓ Talk to your child about how people can sometimes lie online and pretend to be someone else.
- ✓ Encourage your child to keep gaming friends "in the game" and not to invite them to be friends on their social networks.

Steps you can take to protect your child online

1. Set parental controls on devices
2. Agree rules on screen time
3. Talk to your child about staying safe online
4. Encourage off-screen activities

For more information on E-Safety you can visit the following websites:

www.saferinternet.org.uk

Advice and guidance - plus extra information around Safer Internet Day.

www.thinkyouknow.co.uk

Advice for Parents as well as children.

www.childline.org.uk

Trained counsellors available to speak to. If you are experiencing online bullying or something else online has worried you please speak to an adult you trust, or you can talk to Childline at any time on 0800 1111 or at www.childline.org.uk.

www.iwf.org.uk

The Internet Watch Foundation - report online criminal content.

www.getsafeonline.org

Advice about online security.

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

Child Exploitation and Online Protection.