



Progress in
partnership
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Important E-Safety information and Update for parents/carers

Dear Parents/Guardians,

E-Safety is a vital and important part of keeping children safe online. We have security measures in place in school, which are constantly monitored, to help safeguard pupils from any potential dangers. E-Safety is taught to all pupils explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online.

Unfortunately, there has been an incident that has taken place involving one of our older children. They were contacted by an unknown person who subsequently sent them very inappropriate messages. This was to their personal mobile phone and outside of school hours. The parents of the child concerned were vigilant in checking their child's phone and took immediate action to deal with the situation. They will also be informing the police of the incident and it will be dealt with in the appropriate manner.

We wanted to re-iterate that we do have many lessons on keeping safe whilst online. As you will be aware, we can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we all work together to ensure the E-Safety message is consistent. Your help is needed to talk to your children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online. The widespread availability and use of social networking bring opportunities to understand, engage and communicate with audiences in new ways.

It is important that we can use these technologies and services effectively and flexibly. You may find your children asking to engage with technology that you have no knowledge or experience of. Children are accessing a greater amount of content online, than we were ever exposed to in our childhood.

We'd like to remind parents and children that services like Facebook and YouTube have a minimum age limit of 13. They do this for a reason. If you choose to allow your children to have these accounts, then you will want to discuss with them the boundaries you expect. We have spoken to them in school about sharing their password with you, in order to keep them safe.

You will find children can accidentally or deliberately be exposed to unwanted or unpleasant content or comments online and there are steps you can take at home to minimise this risk.

What can parents/carers do?

Ground Rules • Discuss as a family how the internet will be used in your house. Consider what should be kept private online (personal information, photos etc.) and decide rules for making and meeting online friends. Make sure you know what your child is doing online much like you would offline.

Online Safety • Install antivirus software, secure your internet connection, and use Parental Control functions for computers, mobile phones, and games consoles to block unsuitable content or contact.

