



E-Safety for Parents

February 2020

Helping you to keep your child safe online

Dear Parents and Carers,

If your child is using a **mobile phone** or **tablet** at home can parents please take the time to look at the **Parental Controls** set up. The online world is always developing and changing, hopefully this newsletter will give you some things to think about and to follow up online.

Safety Tips

Taking selfies is very popular—this comes with concern that your children may be sending **inappropriate selfies**. Focus on encouraging less sharing of photos and explain that it is **illegal** to share nude images of themselves.

Online Gaming—Most online games are now internet based and involve interaction with others, please be aware that this can often lead to serious safeguarding concerns. Many children are playing on line games which are **not age appropriate**.

Cyber-bullying can be devastating—help by being actively involved in your child's use of the internet.

Online grooming, look out for changes in behaviour:

- wanting to spend more and more time on the internet
- being secretive about who they are talking to online and what sites they visit
- switching screens when you come near the computer
- possessing items – electronic devices or phones – you haven't given them
- using sexual language you wouldn't expect them to know
- becoming emotionally volatile

Sexting—The term '**sexting**' is used to describe the sending and receiving of sexually explicit photos, messages and video clips, by text, email or posting them on social networking sites.

Online reputation—the internet has a good memory, it keeps a record of everything we do online. Encouraging your children to keep a positive online reputation is essential.

Self-harm can be physical and emotional and something that young people can research online, parental controls are a very sensible approach to keeping your family safe online.

Contact with materials of an inappropriate nature, that can be found online are a constant worry to parents and carers, keeping communication channels open and being very clear that online behaviour should reflect behaviour in the offline world is extremely important.

For further details follow this link:

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

I hope this is helpful.

Executive Head Teacher

MR E M MASTERSON

Useful links

<http://parentinfo.org/>



Parental Control Links Childnet

<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/parental-controls>



UK Safer Internet Centre

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk>



Think U Know

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>



CEOP (Child Exploitation on line Protection Agency)

<http://www.ceop.police.uk>



Internet Matters.org

<https://www.internetmatters.org>

internet
matters.org

Contact Sandwell Multi Agenc Safe-guarding Hub

(MASH) on 0121 569 3100