

Dear Parents,

As part of our continuing work on e-Safety we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of its importance and relevance in your child's life.

### What does eSafety mean?

Using the Internet is now an everyday occurrence for most adults and children. With ever expanding new technologies such as blogs (online diaries), social networking spaces, online chat and mobile phones children are using technology in a way never seen before. The increased use of technology at school and home also exposes children to a number of risks and dangers. In its simplest form eSafety is about ensuring children use new technologies computers, mobile phones and gaming devices in a way which will keep them safe without limiting their opportunities for creation and innovation.

### Why the Internet and digital communications are important

The Internet is an essential element in 21st century life for education, business, and social interaction. The school has a duty to provide pupils with quality Internet access as part of their learning experience.

Internet use is a part of the statutory curriculum and a necessary tool for staff and pupils.

**Obviously within school the Internet will be used to enhance teaching and learning**

### **E---Safety**

At school we take the safety of our pupils very seriously including their safety while they access the internet, we want this approach to e--safety to spread to the home online environment too and we are therefore sharing with you some tips and resources to help you guide your children and help you keep up to date in a digital world. Here are a few tips to help you keep your children safe online:

### **Think U know**

(<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Primary/>) is always a good place to start- you will see the report abuse button.

Another site that is helpful for parent controls is

**UK Safer Internet Centre** (<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice---and--resources/parents---and---carers>)

This site advises you to take four steps:

1. Have on going **conversations with your children** about staying safe online
2. Use **safety tools on social networks and other online services**, e.g. Facebook privacy settings
3. Decide if you want to use **parental controls** on your home internet

[

4. Understand devices and the parental control tools they offer in our Parents' Guide to Technology Digital

Parenting is another useful website to look at-

<http://www.pitda.co.uk/>

There are three areas to think about: **WHO** your child is talking to, **WHAT** they're doing, and **WHERE** they're going online Digital Parenting also advises you to set "ground rules"

### **The Basics**

Choose an appropriate homepage on your family computer or tablet

-forexample,bbc.co.uk/cbeebies

### **Worth Checking**

The educational apps, games and TV shows on offer for pre--school children, and the age ratings and descriptions for them.

### **Talk it through**

Share your technology rules with grandparents, babysitters and Older siblings, so that they stick to them when they look after your child or use the family computer.

### **Internet use within school**

The school Internet access will be designed expressly for pupil use and will include filtering appropriate to the age of pupils.

Pupils will be taught what Internet use is acceptable and what is not and given clear objectives for Internet use.

Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the Internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation

Pupils will be shown how to publish and present information to a wider audience.

### **And finally.....**

The rules and conversation you have now will set the tone for your child's internet use as they get older.

**If you would like any further information on e-Safety please come in and speak to one of our staff.**

**Kind regards**

Helen Bushell

Assistant Head  
DSL and CLA Lead

[