

ONLINE SAFETY – PARENT INFORMATION

Please take time to speak with your child about:

Appropriate online behaviour: Children should treat others with respect and never use hurtful, threatening, or inappropriate language online.

Sharing images: Children must never share indecent images of themselves or others. Sending or receiving such images is illegal, regardless of age.

Reporting concerns: Encourage your child to speak to you or a trusted adult if they see anything online that worries or upsets them.

Age restrictions: Many platforms have a legal minimum age. For example, WhatsApp is legally for 16+. Children below this age should not be using it.

Advice for Monitoring and Supporting Your Child Online

Be involved: Talk regularly with your child about their online experiences and who they interact with.

Set clear boundaries: Agree rules for internet use, including time limits and which websites or apps are appropriate.

Use privacy settings: Support your child in creating strong passwords and activating privacy controls on devices and accounts.

Know the signs: Watch for sudden changes in behaviour, reluctance to use devices, or secretive online activity.

Report concerns: Encourage your child to speak to you or a trusted adult if they see anything upsetting or inappropriate online.

Resources for Further Information and Support

Thinkuknow: Guidance for parents and children about online safety

NSPCC Online Safety: Practical tips and advice

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command (CEOP): Report concerns or seek advice

UK Safer Internet Centre: Tips, advice, and resources