

Online Safety information

Online Safety is an important part of keeping children safe at Holy Name Catholic Primary School. We have extensive security measures in place at school, which are monitored both internally and externally, to help safeguard pupils from potential dangers or unsuitable material. Any Online Safety incidents are reported to the Designated Online Safety Leader and managed in accordance with our Online Safety Policy. Online Safety is embedded into the computing curriculum and taught to all pupils in specific focus days each term, explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online. In addition, a new online safety tip appears on the school website each fortnight.

We can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with you to ensure the Online Safety message is consistent. Your help is needed to reinforce important messages regarding Online Safety at home.

Follow the Golden Rules

Ground Rules

- Discuss as a family how the internet will be used in your home. Consider what should be kept private online and decide rules regarding making online friends. Children should be reminded not to share any personal information or photographs. Make sure you know what your child is doing online as much as you would do for any offline activities. 1 in 4 children arrange to meet someone face to face that they have spoken to online.

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.
- Remember that parental control tools are not always 100% effective and sometimes unsuitable content can get past them, so do not rely on them alone to protect your child.

Location

- Locate your computer in a supervised family area. Always supervise the use of webcams and applications which allow voice or video chat. Consider your child's use of other devices that allow internet access such as mobile phones and games consoles.

Dialogue

- Talk to your child and ask them to show or even teach you how they use the internet, learn which websites or tools they like to use and why. Learning together can often open opportunities to discuss safe behaviour with your child.
- Always ensure your child knows how to block or report people online who send nasty or inappropriate messages or content. Encourage your child not to retaliate or reply. Screen shots should be kept as evidence, if needed by appropriate agencies to pursue and take necessary action.
- Make sure your child knows to tell an adult they trust if they see something online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable.
- **It is essential to be realistic - banning the internet or technology will not work and it often makes a child less likely to report a problem. Education around safe use is essential.**

These websites provide more information:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk – Visit the "Parent/Carer" Section. Use the "Click CEOP" button to seek advice and report online abuse

www.childnet.com – Visit the 'Know It All' Section for an interactive guide about online safety

www.getsafeonline.org – Free up-to-date security advice

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> NSPCC internet safety advice

We are always available to discuss any help you may need or concerns that you may have.

Mr A. Wilkes

Online Safety Leader