Online Safety Newsletter

October 2024 Issue 2.

Welcome back to the second Online Safety Newsletter. We've had a great response from the first issue. Thank you for all your comments.

If there is anything specific you'd like included please do email the office with any suggestions.

You're in control!



Does your child have a games console? If yes, have you set up age-appropriate parental controls? The controls vary across the different consoles, but all will allow you to restrict spending and communication.

PlayStation

Set up your account as a family manager and create a separate child account so you can tailor their activities. <u>How do I do this?</u> <u>(click here)</u>

Xbox

You can download an app (click) to manage your child's gaming experience.

Nintendo Switch

Nintendo also offer a free app (click) to monitor what and how your children are playing.

Don't forget you can download the free National Online Safety app for information and support when discussing how to keep safe online with your child.



The APPle of our eyes! Breathe, Think, Do with Sesame (Age 4+)

This app will help teach your child skills such as problem solving, self-control and planning.



Kind Resilient Respectful



Our focus for this issue is **WhatsApp** – we all know what it is and what is does but did you know the minimum age to register is 16? WhatsApp can be a great platform for sharing information quickly. If you choose to let your children have access to WhatsApp then we would encourage you to chick on the guide below which has lots of hints and tips and can form part of a discussion about how they can use the app to its potential whilst remaining safe and taking responsibility for their behaviour online.

What our children say...

We asked our school council reps for their thoughts around WhatsApp.

"First thing is to get permission from your grown up to download it. When chatting, think before you send – once it's sent it can't be undone. If you see something that upsets you or is unkind then tell a grown up straight away. If the unkind messages continue then block the person and report them to the police."

"I only really use it to communicate with my family and let them know I am safe when walking home. Never share yours or anyone else's number with anyone you don't know. Also, it's a good idea to go into your **privacy settings** and edit them so that only people in your contacts can add you to a group. Otherwise you can be automatically added to a group you have no idea who or what it is about"

