COVID-19: Keeping Safe Online

29.4.2020

In the current environment, many of us are using different ways to try and keep in touch with our friends and family and access home learning opportunities. Online learning can be a great way to continue learning outside the classroom too.

However, the idea of communicating with others & learning online isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors that need to be considered. We recognise that during this period parents/carers may have concerns about the content their children are accessing and how they are communicating. The following resources have been provided as guidance for parents and carers to keep children safe online.

We have previously sent out links to information on e-safety. This letter outlines these links/resources again as next week Miss Child will be setting the weekly challenge around e-safety. I hope you will encourage your child to take part.

There are many sites outlined with different information. The ThinkUKnow website is good for children to explore in particular as the content is age specific and accessible.

Please do have regular conversations about staying safe and to encourage children to speak to you if they come across something worrying online. The resources below will, amongst other things, support you to talk to your child about a range of online safety issues, set up home filtering in a child-friendly way and set up age-appropriate parental controls on digital devices:

• **Thinkuknow** - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online:
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
• **National Online Safety** – for comprehensive support for parents and responsible adults:
https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides
• **Internet matters** - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online:
https://www.internetmatters.org/about-us/
• **Child net** - has developed guidance for parents and carers to begin a conversation about online safety, as well as guidance on keeping under-fives safe online: https://www.childnet.com
• **Net-aware** - for support for parents and carers from the NSPCC:
https://www.netaware.org.uk/news/
• **Parent Info** - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online, related to the digital world from leading experts and organisations:
https://parentinfo.org/page/about-us
• **UK Safer Internet Centre** - advice for parents and carers - you can also report any harmful content found online through the UK Safer Internet Centre:
https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/our-helplines

If you wish to access any further information, please visit the Department for Education's guidance, via: Coronavirus (COVID-19): https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online. If you have any questions or any other concerns regarding online safety please contact the school.

With kind regards,

Zoe Avastu

Headteacher