



PARENT INFORMATION ON KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

17.12.2021

Dear parents,

You may know in response to the 'Everyone Invited' website which highlighted peer-on-peer sexual harassment & abuse, Ofsted has undertaken a report in this area. As staff we have undertaken NSPCC training and have further training booked later in the year. We have updated our safeguarding policy in light of this too.

The children's commissioner has launched a guide for parents on online sexual harassment & keeping children safe online. It may feel like this issue is for secondary school but it has been identified that online access opens up for children in upper primary and this can sometimes be a great age to start talking with children to help them to be safe online. The guide is interesting and thought provoking. I hope the information and link to the guide below is useful to you.

With kind regards,

Zoe Avastu
Headteacher

Guidance for parents and carers on online sexual harassment and keeping children safe online

The Children's Commissioner is today launching [a guide for parents and carers on online sexual harassment and how they can support children to stay safe online](#).

"The things I wish my parents had known" draws together advice from 16 to 21 year olds on how parents should manage tricky conversations around sexual harassment and access to inappropriate content, including pornography.

The Commissioner's office began a programme of work focussing on peer-on-peer abuse following the avalanche of testimonies on the Everyone's Invited website, which laid bare an epidemic of sexual violence among teens. This was picked up in [Ofsted's June 2021 review of sexual harassment in schools and colleges](#).

A surprising but overriding message from young people is that parents should start these challenging conversations early. They suggest broaching topics before a child is given a phone or a social media account, which is often around the age of 9 or 10.

The Children's Commissioner hopes that her guide will serve as a useful starting point to raise awareness and understanding of online harassment.