



Farington Moss St Paul's Primary School



Online Safety Newsletter



'Thrive in the Gift of Life'

December 2021 (Edition 8)

Christmas time is a good opportunity to remind children about the importance of online safety. There will be many opportunities for children to be online during the holiday. Children can be connected to the online world in so many different ways, that it is no longer limited to mobile phones, tablets and laptops.

Technology and the internet can be overwhelming. Sometimes it is difficult to know which app to use, which game is suitable or how much time should a child be online for? Hopefully these websites will point you in the direction of some helpful advice and information.

NSPCC's Top Tips

The NSPCC website is always wealth of information. This weblink will provide you with hyperlinks to a variety of different online topics.

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

The main tips from the NSPCC about keeping your child safe online are:

1. Have a conversation about using the internet early and often.
2. Explore the internet together.
3. Know who your child is talking to online.
4. Set rules and agree boundaries.
5. Make sure content is age appropriate.
6. Use parental controls to filter, restrict, monitor and report content.
7. Check privacy settings and remind children to keep personal information private.

Think U Know

Think U Know is another useful website. This page has useful information about the 'Internet of Things.'

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-the-internet-of-things-iot/>

Parent Info

Parent Info is a website set up for Parents and Carers by CEOP and the Parent Zone. Parent Info contains a wealth of information that covers issues related to the internet. Their website is

www.parentinfo.org

Games Consoles

Online gaming can be fun, entertaining and can encourage teamwork and cooperation when played with others. Internet safety is directly applicable to online gaming on all devices. All games consoles have parental control settings to allow you to limit your child's gaming to age-appropriate games based upon the PEGI rating.

PEGI labels appear on the front and back of games packaging, and on online games and apps. For more information about the different age levels and descriptors visit: <https://pegi.info/>

Social Media

For information about Social Media the Internet Matters website offers a wide range of advice on areas such as fake news, data collection, cyberbullying, hacking etc. This can be found at

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/?gclid=CjoKCOjA2NaNBhDvARIsAEw55hgfp7IGOCQOTQSIAPVzqnjz-7GaaSsbtNfJ-HxSonA1g9iSUEywJKAKaAispEALw_wcB

This webpage is also useful for checking the age limits for the different social media platforms.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-age-can-my-child-start-social-networking/>

Interesting Statistics

If you are interested in statistics Ofcom have published an updated report for 2020/21. This can be found at <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/media-literacy-research/childrens/children-and-parents-media-use-and-attitudes-report-2021>

Other Useful Websites

SWGfI have some very useful tips for staying safe on-line. They provide information about purchasing apps and setting boundaries for using devices. <https://swgfi.org.uk/magazine/staying-safe-online-at-christmas/>

The Nice Device Quiz: <https://nicedevicelist.com/>

Internet Parental Controls: www.saferinternet.org.uk/parental-controls

Safety tools on Online Networks: www.saferinternet.org.uk/safety-tools

A Parent's Guide to Technology: www.saferinternet.org.uk/parent-tech

Our school website also has many links on the homepage to other useful online safety websites including the NSPCC and CEOP.

We hope you have a safe and Happy Christmas.

