

Online Safety

Newsletter

September 2022

A very warm welcome to Term 1! I hope you have enjoyed the Summer break!

I thought as it is the first online safety newsletter for the year, I would go over some of the basics to keep every one of our families safe online!

At Charlton, the children are taught the SMART targets which are :



Safe – Keep your password secret and do not give out your full name, address or contact details publicly online.

Meet – Only meet up with friends/family that you know and that have been agreed by your parents.
Stranger=danger!

Accepting – Do not accept anything online that is too good to be true! Be careful what you click as it may be a scam or a virus.

Reliable- Check your sources before you believe anything you see online!

Tell – Tell an adult if there is anything you feel uncomfortable or upset over online. It is important you tell grown-ups what you are up to online.

Heart – Be kind online!

A method we teach the school is 'Turn it off and tell.' If they are in any doubt and if they are not sure what to do 'Turn off the screen and tell an adult'.

Being safe online can vary for every family however I do have some top tips for grown ups who may be worried about keeping their children and family safe whilst using the internet.

(<https://www.connectsafely.org/instagram/> Information can be found on this website)

For very young children (1-6 years old) it is important that we, as adults, nurture and show them what to do, whilst having fun at the same time. Make time to play age-appropriate online games/apps with your children and share the positivity of being online. **Please monitor your children's internet use at all times when they are using devices.** I cannot stress this enough. The more you know and the more you are interested about their internet use, the more they will feel open to tell you what they do and how they act online.

As children get older (7-11 year olds) it is important to keep an open dialogue (conversation) with them, to allow them to be honest and keep you up to date with what they are watching and using online. It is important that internet use is based on trust and communication. You can use appropriate filters online to ensure that there are minimal risks

and this is where you can really embed the SMART online safety reminders for your children. Remember to keep reminding your children what to do if they see something they do not like or makes them uncomfortable online.

What to do if you need to report harmful content?

<https://reportharmfulcontent.com/harmful-content-online-an-explainer/>

Even though we use filters and parental controls, things still slip past the algorithms and may cause your child to be distressed or made to feel uncomfortable. It is vital that you report harmful content as this could save another child being subject to seeing or hearing inappropriate things online.

Please use the Report Harmful Content on the internet so that we can keep all families safe.



My child is using a new app and I don't know if it is appropriate.

If you need any advice about apps:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/> Please visit this website that has useful information about what the apps are and what they are used for.

How do I check whether the app is age-appropriate?

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/app-age-rating/>

Games and apps use the PEGI (Pan European Game Information) to provide guidance for parents and carers as to whether they are age-appropriate for their children. It considers the age suitability and not the level of difficulty of the game. It is suggested the minimum age in which the game should be played.

Latest news:

It was very sad for all of us to hear the news about the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. I found an online book of condolence for the royal family for anybody who would like to participate in this or if you would like to complete this as a family.

<https://www.royal.uk/send-message-condolence>

Safe search engines you can use at home!

- 1- Kidtopia.
- 2- Kid's Search Engine.
- 3- Kiddle.

- 4- DuckDuckGo.
- 5- GoGooligans.
- 6- KidRex.
- 7- Safe Search Kids.
- 8- KidzSearch.
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Helpful video and guidance to online safety for parents/carers.

<https://youtu.be/nQ7TYRYoF4M>

Helpful websites for you:

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

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/47/>

<https://www.childnet.com/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

Save the date!

**Safer Internet Day
2023** which will take place
on **Tuesday, 7 February
2023.**

If you have any questions or need any advice about internet safety. Please do not hesitate to contact me. Best wishes Mrs Morton.