

Online Safeguarding Guidance for Young People

Please discuss the following guidance with your child/children and visit the school website for further information.

The Internet should be a fun and interesting place to explore, learn and have fun. But some people use the internet to cause harm.

Protect yourself online;

- Avoid one to one chat rooms.
- Remember, people you meet online, may not be who they say they are.
- Think carefully before posting comments, photos or videos of you or your friends online.
- Review your privacy settings so only people you know can see your personal information and photographs.
- Protect your passwords and never give your friends access to your accounts.

Stay safe and follow these rules when you're online:

- never give out personal information, such as telephone numbers, home address or details about your school, college or place of work
- never agree to meet someone you are in contact with over the internet. If you do want to meet them, always meet in a public place, during the day and take a parent/carer/adult friend with you. Remember, not everyone is who they say they are
- if someone says something that makes you feel upset, uncomfortable or threatened, save the messages but do not respond. Then tell a parent/carer/Internet Service Provider (i.e. BT, Tiscali or AOL) or report it online (www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre)
- never send pictures of yourself or any of your friends or family to anyone you meet online without asking your parents/carers
- follow the rules your parents/carers have set when using the internet
- report it and block it if you find something on the internet that makes you feel uncomfortable or worried.

Report a problem or threatening behaviour online:

- Tell someone you trust such as a parent or teacher if you are being bullied.
- Keep messages as evidence to help identify anyone bullying you.
- Contact the police
- Report it to your Internet Service Provider. ISPs have rules about online behaviour. If anyone breaks those rules they have their account suspended temporarily. If the problem continues the account will be closed permanently.