

## Online Safety terms explained

Everything you post online combines to make your <u>digital footprint</u>. Remember that what you share with your friends may also be viewed by people you don't know. And once it's online, it could be there forever. So think before you post.



Many different types of multimedia (videos, songs, games etc.) are easily available online. Age appropriate ratings exist for games in the same way they do for films. It is important that we follow these ratings and guidelines so children are not exposed to inappropriate, harmful or upsetting content.

## Cyber-bullying



<u>Cyberbullying</u> is similar to other types of bullying, except it takes place online and through text messages. Cyberbullies can be classmates, online acquaintances, and even anonymous users who use emails, messages or chat rooms to send mean or threatening messages.

### Grooming

Grooming is a word used to describe how people who want to sexually harm children and young people get close to them, and often their families, and gain their trust. Online it is easier for an offender to lie and gain one-to-one contact with a child (for example through a social network or gaming site). They can share images or videos relating to their pretended common interests and build a 'relationship' away from adult supervision.

## **Child Protection and Safeguarding**

At St John and St James we take any incident relating to Online Safety as a serious child safeguarding issue. There are many opportunities for children to raise any concerns they have regarding their use online, including an Online Safety worry box which is through which children can express concerns confidentially. Incidents are referred to the Lead Computing teacher who will ensure measures are taken to resolve the problem. The child protection officer will be informed and act according should an Online Safety issue be deemed serious.



# St John and St James C of E Primary School

**Online Safety** 

The internet provides many exciting educational opportunities for children and young people to explore, create and learn.

At St John and St James' we encourage the use of digital technology as an important part of our children's learning and development. We want all our children to grow up knowing how to keep safe and protected in the digital world.

This leaflet explains how Online Safety is embedded within school life and learning at St John and St James. It also aims to provide parents and carers with the guidance and tools needed to help protect your children and support them to become responsible online users.





## Online Safety throughout the curriculum

Online Safety is a key part of each computing lesson from Year 1 to Year 6. Children learn about a range of issues such as:

- Digital footprints
- Keeping personal information private and safe
- Appropriate and inappropriate content
- Cyber-bullying
- Reliability
- Overuse

The children learn about these aspects of Online Safety through class discussions, games, videos and stories. They are treated in a serious and sensitive way and allow opportunities for children to share ideas, concerns or advice. Children in Early Years learn about Online Safety through stories and other relevant media.



Online Safety is also embedded throughout all other areas of the curriculum, such as Literacy, Maths and Topic. The children enjoy a wide range of digital

learning opportunities to develop their skills as safe and confident online users.

### How to keep your child safe online

As a parent, you will be aware of how important the internet is to children and young people. They use it to learn, play, socialise and express themselves.

With the many and varied online games, social media and applications used by children today, it is increasingly challenging to keep track of the suitability of what our children are seeing and who they are talking to online. There are wonderful games and learning tools online and we do not want to stop children using the internet. We want to provide you with information and reference points to help you support your child in accessing safe sites and games.





The following checklist is a helpful guide as you protect them and decrease the online risks they face:

- My child has shown me the sites they use
- I have set appropriate parental controls on my child's computer, mobile and games console (see links on next page for further help and advice with this)
- I have asked my child to set their profile settings to private
- I have asked my child about their online friends
- My child has agreed to tell me if they are worried about something online
- I have verified that any video games my child plays are age-appropriate
- I know where to get help if I'm concerned about my child



### Helpful links and resources

The following websites allow you to find out about content and suitability of games and websites. They will inform you if the game or app is age appropriate for your child and the reasons behind the content certification.

#### www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/

Up to date information, ideas about how to talk to your child about online safety and much more





www.kidsmart.org.uk/parents/

Parent guide to internet safety

www.childnet.com/ parents-and-carers

This site aims to make online parenting simple



www.ceop.police.uk/safetycentre/



Help and support for children and advice about reporting inappropriate, offensive or abusive online behaviour

UK Safer Internet Centre

www.saferinternet.org.uk

Here you can find videos to guide you through the process for providers such as BT, Sky, Virgin Media and Talk Talk.

#### www.netsmartzkinds.org

A child friendly website that teaches children about all aspects of internet safety

www.childline.org.uk/Explore/Bullying/Pages/
online-bullying.aspx
Guidance for dealing with common sense
cyber-bullying media



www.pegi.info/en/index/ id/24

Information and advice about

age and consent certification