



# Online Safety Policy

We are 'seeds sown in the good soil'  
(Matthew 13:23)

Adopted: December 2024

Approved by Governors: December 2024

Review date: December 2025

## Introduction

The schools Online-Safety Policy covers the safe use of internet and electronic communications technologies such as mobile phones and wearable technology. The internet is an essential resource to support teaching and learning. The statutory curriculum requires pupils to learn how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly; to locate, retrieve and exchange information using ICT and to use software or design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals.

The policy highlights the need to educate children and young people about the benefits and risks of using new technologies both in and away from school. It also provides safeguards and rules to guide staff, pupils and visitors in their online experiences.

Computer skills are vital to access life-long learning and employment. Our school has a number of services to help ensure that curriculum use is safe and appropriate, however, access out of school does not usually have these services and has a range of risks associated with its use. We provide pupils with as safe an internet environment as possible, and teach them to be aware of, and respond responsibly to possible risks.

## Aims

Our school aims to:

- Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers and governors.
- Deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology
- Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate

## Core Principles of Internet Safety

Significant educational benefits result from curriculum internet use including access to information from around the world and the ability to communicate widely and to publish easily. Curriculum internet use should be planned within a regulated and managed environment. Directed and successful internet use will also reduce the opportunities for activities of dubious worth.

## Risk Assessment

21st century life presents dangers including violence, racism and exploitation from which children and young people need to be protected. At the same time, they must learn to recognise and avoid these risks – to become ‘internet wise’. Our school is fully aware of the risks, performs risk assessments and implements a policy for internet use. Pupils know how to respond if they come across inappropriate material or are contacted inappropriately online.

The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable and ever evolving, but can be categorised into four areas of risk:

**Content:** being exposed to illegal, inappropriate, or harmful content, for example: pornography, fake news, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, anti-Semitism, radicalisation and extremism

**Contact:** being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users; for example: peer to peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit them for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes

**Conduct:** online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm; for example, making, sending and receiving explicit images (e.g. consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes and/or pornography, sharing other explicit images and online bullying, and;

**Commerce:** risks such as online gambling and inappropriate advertising

## **Responsibility**

Internet safety depends on staff, schools, governors, advisers, parents and, where appropriate, the pupils themselves taking responsibility for the use of the internet and other communication technologies such as mobile phones. The balance between educating pupils to take a responsible approach and the use of regulation and technical solutions must be judged carefully.

## **Regulation**

The use of a finite and expensive resource, which brings with it the possibility of misuse, requires regulation. For instance, un-moderated chat rooms, social media platforms and live video chat-rooms present immediate dangers and are banned. All school internet traffic is routed through the RM filtering system. School IT staff are able to track Internet searches and follow up as appropriate through RM. Fair rules (the Smart and SAFE rules for the older and younger children respectively) prominently displayed at the point of access help pupils make responsible decisions.

## **Home Learning**

Whilst the statutory need to provide home learning has been withdrawn by the DfE there may still be occasions that we, as a school, offer remote learning. It is also possible we may lend pupils a school owned device for this purpose. We cannot be responsible for the suitability of material accessed on these devices over private internet connections outside school which are likely to be unfiltered or certainly filtered to a lesser degree than in school.

It is the responsibility of parents to make sure their children are safe online during home learning. We also offer suitable advice on various internet providers filtering options.

## **Appropriate strategies**

This document describes strategies to help to ensure responsible and safe use. They are based on limiting access, developing responsibility and on guiding pupils towards educational activities.

Strategies are selected to suit the school situation and their effectiveness is monitored.

There are no straightforward or totally effective solutions and staff, parents and the pupils themselves must remain vigilant.

## **Legislation and guidance**

This policy is based on the Department for Education's statutory safeguarding guidance, Keeping Children Safe in Education, and its advice for schools on preventing and tackling

bullying and searching, screening and confiscation. It also refers to the Department's guidance on protecting children from radicalisation.

It reflects existing legislation, including but not limited to the Education Act 1996 (as amended), the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the Equality Act 2010. In addition, it reflects the Education Act 2011, which has given teachers stronger powers to tackle cyber-bullying by, if necessary, searching for and deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

The policy also takes into account the National Curriculum computing programmes of study.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### The Governing Body

The governing body has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The governing board will coordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss online safety, and monitor online safety logs as provided by the Online Safety Lead.

The governor who oversees online safety is: Mrs P Kerr.

All governors will:

- Ensure that they have read and understand this policy
- Agree and adhere to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendix 2)

### The Headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that staff understand this policy, and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school.

### The Online Safety Lead & ICT Manager

Mr Head is our Online Safety Lead and DSL. Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Marriott are our alternate DSLs.

The Online Safety Lead takes lead responsibility for online safety in school, in particular:

- In ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school
- Working with the school's DSL team, and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy
- Updating and delivering staff training on online safety (appendix 3 contains a self-audit for staff on online safety training needs)
- Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary
- Providing regular reports on online safety in school to the governing board
- Provide information on current concerns and trends in online safety for parents and carers via Arbor

- Putting in place appropriate filtering and monitoring systems, which are updated on a regular basis and keep pupils safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material. Our filtering system is managed on our behalf by RM who ensure it is compliant with the Dfe requirements detailed in KCSIE (Sept 2024). Training on our filtering system is included in the Online Safety Annual Update to staff.
- Conducting a review of our monitoring and filtering systems on an annual basis with Governors
- Ensuring that the school's ICT systems are secure and protected against viruses and malware, and that such safety mechanisms are updated regularly
- Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous files

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### All Staff and Volunteers

All staff, including contractors and agency staff, and volunteers are responsible for:

- Maintaining an understanding of this policy
- Implementing this policy consistently
- Agreeing and adhering to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendix 2), and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use (appendix 1). They are aware that network and internet traffic is monitored and traced to the individual user and that passwords must remain secret. If staff or pupils come across unsuitable on-line materials, the site must be reported to the Online Safety Leader.
- Working with the Online Safety Lead to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### Parents

Parents are expected to:

- Notify a member of staff or the headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding this policy
- Ensure their child has read, understood and agreed to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and internet (appendix 1)
- Take an active role in supporting their child/children in becoming ambassadors in Online Safety

Parents can seek further guidance on keeping children safe online from the school's website.

### Visitors and members of the community

Visitors and members of the community who use the school's ICT systems or internet will be made aware of this policy, when relevant, and expected to read and follow it. If appropriate, they will be expected to agree to the terms on acceptable use (appendix 2). Visitors are

reminded at the point of entry that electronic devices that are capable of taking photographs or video must not be used on the school site.

### Educating pupils about Online Safety

Pupils will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum.

In Key Stage 1, pupils will be taught to:

- Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private
- Identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies

Pupils in Key Stage 2 will be taught to:

- Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly
- Recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- Identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact
- Cross-check information before accepting its accuracy
- Communicate online safely and respectfully.

The safe use of social media and the internet will also be covered in other subjects where relevant.

The school will use assemblies to raise pupils' awareness of the dangers that can be encountered online and may also invite speakers to talk to pupils about this.

Online-Safety rules are posted in all rooms where computers are used and discussed with pupils regularly. Pupils are aware that network and Internet use will be monitored and appropriately followed up.

An Online-Safety curriculum has been developed and is embedded across the curriculum in conjunction with :

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-a-connected-world>  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teaching-online-safety-in-schools>.

Underpinning knowledge and behaviours that are taught include:

- How to evaluate what they see online so that pupils don't presume that what they see is true.
- How to recognise techniques for persuasion.
- What counts as acceptable or unacceptable online behaviour.
- How to identify online risks.
- How and when to seek support.

### Educating Parents about Online Safety

The school will raise parents' awareness of internet safety in letters or other communications home, and in information via our website This policy will also be shared with parents.

If parents have any queries or concerns in relation to online safety, these should be raised in the first instance with the Online Safety Lead/DSL or your child's class teacher.

Concerns or queries about this policy can be raised with any member of staff or the Headteacher.

## Cyber-Bullying

Definition - Cyber-bullying takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites. Like other forms of bullying, it is the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the school behaviour policy.)

## Preventing and Addressing Cyber-Bullying

To help prevent cyber-bullying, we will ensure that pupils understand what it is and what to do if they become aware of it happening to them or others. We will ensure that pupils know how they can report any incidents and are encouraged to do so, including where they are a witness rather than the victim.

The school will actively discuss cyber-bullying with pupils, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be. Class teachers will discuss cyber-bullying with pupils and any issues will be addressed.

Teaching staff are also encouraged to find opportunities to use aspects of the curriculum to cover cyber-bullying. This includes personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, and other subjects where appropriate.

All staff, governors and volunteers (where appropriate) receive training on cyber-bullying, its impact and ways to support pupils, as part of safeguarding training (see section 11 for more detail).

The school also sends information/leaflets on cyber-bullying to parents so that they are aware of the signs, how to report it and how they can support children who may be affected.

In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the school behaviour policy. Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among pupils, the school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained. The DSL will consider whether the incident should be reported to the police if it involves illegal material, and will work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so.

## Examining Electronic Devices

School staff have the specific power under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (which has been increased by the Education Act 2011) to search for and, if necessary, delete inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices, including mobile phones, where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

When deciding whether there is a good reason to examine or erase data or files on an electronic device, staff must reasonably suspect that the data or file in question has been, or could be, used to:

- Cause harm, and/or
- Disrupt teaching, and/or
- Break any of the school rules

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the Online Safety Lead, DSL or other member of the senior leadership team to decide whether they should:

- Delete that material, or
- Retain it as evidence (of a criminal offence or a breach of school discipline), and/or
- Report it to the police

Any searching of pupils will be carried out in line with the DfE's latest guidance on screening, searching and confiscation.

Any complaints about searching for or deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices will be dealt with through the school complaints procedure.

### **Acceptable Use of the Internet in School**

All pupils, parents, staff, volunteers and governors are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendices 1 and 2). Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use if relevant.

Use of the school's internet must be for educational purposes only, or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an individual's role.

We will monitor the websites visited by pupils, staff, volunteers, governors and visitors (where relevant) to ensure they comply with the above. Staff and pupils are aware that network and internet traffic is monitored on an individual login level and that they must only use their own login when accessing the school's network or the internet.

The school will take all reasonable precautions to prevent access to inappropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked nature of Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a computer connected to the school network. The school educates children on what to do should they come across anything online that makes them feel uncomfortable. The school cannot accept liability for any material accessed, or any consequences of Internet access.

More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements in appendices 1 and 2.

### **Pupils using Mobile Devices in School**

Pupils may bring mobile devices into school, but are not permitted to use them:

- At any time within the school grounds.
- At any time on School Trips or Sports Tournaments.

Any breach of the acceptable use agreement by a pupil may trigger disciplinary action in line with the school behaviour policy, which may result in the confiscation of their device.

### **Staff using work devices outside school**

Staff members using a work device outside school must not install any unauthorised software on the device and must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use, as set out in appendix 2.

Staff must ensure that their work device is secure and password-protected, and that they do not share their password with others. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure the security of their work device when using it outside school. Any USB devices containing data relating to the school must be encrypted. Use should also be made of the school's Google Drive facility to transfer data off site and encrypted USB pens should only be used as a last resort.

If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the ICT manager.

Work devices must be used solely for work activities.

### **Filtering & Monitoring**

It is our duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to provide them with a safe environment to learn in. As a part of this duty, the school has appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in place and regularly review the effectiveness of these systems.

The leadership team and relevant staff have an awareness of the systems in place and know how to report concerns. They use professional curiosity to monitor the use online resources used by all groups of pupils, with particular attention to more vulnerable groups of pupils including those with special educational needs. Relevant governors are also aware of the systems in place and conduct regular reviews to ensure that they are doing all that they can reasonably do in order to limit the potential safeguarding risks involved when children use school IT systems. Further information on use of appropriate filtering and monitoring systems can be found below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-digital-and-technology-standards-in-schools-andcolleges/filtering-and-monitoring-standards-for-schools-and-colleges>

### **System Security**

- The school ICT systems capacity and security will be review regularly
- Virus protection is installed and updated regularly
- Security strategies will be discussed with the Local Authority and our ICT technicians.

### **Protecting Personal Data**

Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. See Data Protection policy.

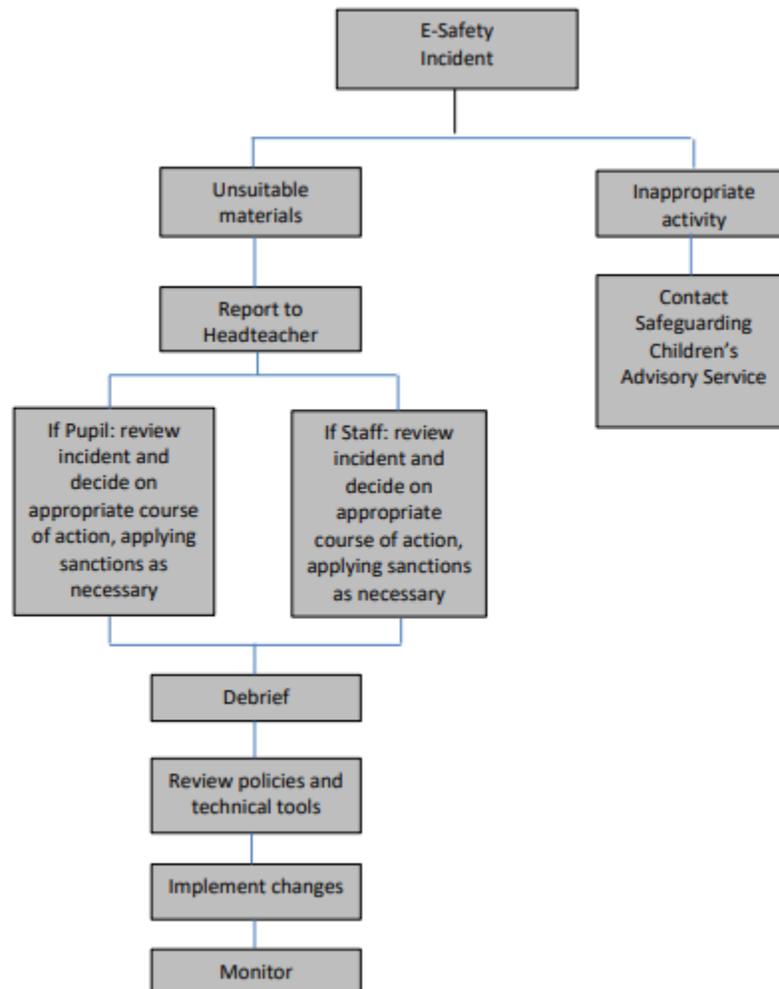
### **How the school will respond to issues of misuse**

Where a pupil misuses the school's ICT systems or internet, we will follow the procedures set out in the behaviour policy. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident, and will be proportionate.

Where a staff member misuses the school's ICT systems or the internet, or misuses a personal device where the action constitutes misconduct, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the staff code of conduct policy. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident.

The school will consider whether incidents which involve illegal activity or content, or otherwise serious incidents, should be reported to the police.

### Flowchart for Responding to Online Safety Incident in School



### Publishing Pupils' Work and Images

- Photographs or work that include pupils will be selected carefully in line with parental permissions.
- Pupil's full names will not be used anywhere on the website or elsewhere, particularly in association with photographs.

### Training

All new staff members will receive training, as part of their induction, on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues including cyber-bullying and the risks of online radicalisation. All staff members will receive refresher training at least once each academic year as part of safeguarding training, as well as relevant updates as required (for example through emails, e-bulletins and staff meetings).

The Online Safety Lead, DSL and ADSLs will undertake child protection and safeguarding training, which will include online safety, at least every **2 years**. They will also update their knowledge and skills on the subject of online safety at regular intervals, and at least annually. Governors will receive training on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues as part of their safeguarding training.

Volunteers will receive appropriate training and updates, if applicable. More information about safeguarding training is set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy.

### **Monitoring arrangements**

The Online Safety Lead logs behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety. This policy will be reviewed annually by the Online Safety Lead and shared with the governing board.

### **Complaints**

Complaints of Internet misuse will be dealt with by a senior member of staff.

Any complaint about staff misuse must be referred to the Headteacher.

Complaints of a safeguarding nature will be dealt with in accordance with school safeguarding procedures. (Our School's Online-Safety Policy has a flowchart of responses to an incident of concern.) Pupils and parents will be informed of the complaints procedure (see school's complaints policy).

Pupils and parents will be informed of consequences for pupils misusing the Internet.

### **Links with other policies**

This online safety policy is linked to our:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Child Protection Procedures
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour policy
- Staff Code of Conduct policy
- Data Protection policy and Privacy Notices
- Complaints Procedure

## Appendix A - Acceptable ICT Use Agreements

Acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and internet: agreement for pupils and parents/carers	
Name of pupil:	
<b>When using the school's ICT systems and accessing the internet in school, I will not:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Use them for a non-educational purpose</li><li>- Use them without a teacher being present, or without a teacher's permission</li><li>- Access any inappropriate websites</li><li>- Access social networking sites</li><li>- Use chat rooms</li><li>- Open any attachments in emails, or follow any links in emails, without first checking with a teacher</li><li>- Use any inappropriate language when communicating online, including in emails</li><li>- Use any other email accounts (apart from the school email account that has been created for me – Year 4 upwards).</li><li>- Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details</li><li>- Give my personal information (including my name, address or telephone number) to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carer</li><li>- Arrange to meet anyone offline without first consulting my parent/carer, or without adult supervision</li></ul>	
If I bring a personal mobile phone or other personal electronic device into school: I will not use it inside the school gates.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit.</li> <li>- I will immediately let a teacher or other member of staff know if I find any material which might upset, distress or harm me or others.</li><li>- I will always use the school's ICT systems and internet responsibly.</li></ul>	
Signed (pupil):	Date:
Parent/carer agreement: I agree that my child can use the school's ICT systems and internet when appropriately supervised by a member of school staff. I agree to the conditions set out above for pupils using the school's ICT systems and internet, and for using personal electronic devices in school, and will make sure my child understands these.	
Signed (parent):	Date:

Acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet: agreement for staff, governors, volunteers and visitors

Name of staff member/governor/volunteer/visitor:

When using the school's ICT systems and accessing the internet in school, or outside school on a work device, I will not:

- Access, or attempt to access inappropriate material, including but not limited to material of a violent, criminal or pornographic nature
- Use them in any way which could harm the school's reputation
- Access social networking sites or chat rooms
- Use any improper language when communicating online, including in emails or other messaging services
- Install any unauthorised software
- Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details
- Take photos of pupils on personal devices

I will only use the school's ICT systems and access the internet in school, or outside school on a work device, for educational purposes or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of my role.

I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit.

I will take all reasonable steps to ensure that work devices are secure and password-protected when using them outside school, and keep all data securely stored in accordance with this policy and the school's data protection policy.

I will let the Online Safety lead, safeguarding lead (DSL) and ICT manager know if a pupil informs me they have found any material which might upset, distress or harm them or others, and will also do so if I encounter any such material.

I will always use the school's ICT systems and internet responsibly, and ensure that pupils in my care do so too.

Signed (staff member/governor/volunteer/visitor):

Date:

## Appendix C- Online safety guidance for pupils and parents/carers

### Online safety during home-learning

In the event of full or partial school closure there will be a return to pupils being provided with remote home learning materials. This is likely to mean that many children will be spending an increased amount of time online. Online safety is an important part of keeping children safe at Orford Primary School and as such we would like to share some helpful advice to help you consider how you can keep your family safer online at home.

Follow the GOLDen Rules

### Ground Rules

- Discuss and agree as a family how the Internet will be used in your house at a level that is appropriate to your children's ability and age
- Discuss with your children what they think is and isn't acceptable to do online, then add your own rules and boundaries to the list
- Decide on what information should be kept private online, such as contact information, photos in school uniform, and agree rules for making and meeting online friends.
- Set clear boundaries relating to use of webcams, video chat, live streaming and live voice on different devices; even when children are talking to people they already know, they can still experience risks. Find more information about live streaming at: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/live-streaming-responding-to-the-risks/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/live-streaming-responding-to-the-risks/)
- Explore how to create strong passwords and discuss how to keep passwords safe, for example not sharing them with their friends or using the same password for several accounts
- You might find it helpful to write 'ground rules' down as a visual reminder. See a template 'family agreement' at: [www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement](http://www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement)
- Remember these are whole family rules, so consider your own use of the Internet and lead by example. Think about how much time you spend online and consider the information you are sharing on your social networks about your children and who can see it
- Share quality time together. Consider nominating 'tech-free' areas or times, such as your child's bedroom or dinner time, where you can give each other undivided attention and share offline experiences, like reading a book together.
- Set up filters on Internet search engines to limit the likelihood of your children accidentally coming across inappropriate content when searching online
- Ensure your child understands that parental controls are in place to protect them, not restrict them; some children will actively work around parental controls if they feel constrained without knowing why
- Read any parental guidance and safety recommendations for games, apps or websites before allowing your child to use them
- The following guides provide balanced information to help you make informed decisions:
  - [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk)
  - [www.askaboutgames.com/](http://www.askaboutgames.com/)
  - [www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org)

- Be aware that parental control tools and filters are not always 100% effective and you can't rely on them alone to protect your child online. It's important to monitor and supervise your child's online activities; where possible access should take place in a family area, but this will depend on the age and ability of your child

## Online Safety

- Install antivirus software and secure your Internet connection
- More advice on online security can be accessed at [www.getsafeonline.org/](http://www.getsafeonline.org/)
- Make the most of the parental controls on your children's Internet enabled devices and games consoles to help restrict access to inappropriate content. They can also help you manage how much time your child spends online
- Do your research and select the tools which are most suitable to you, your child and the technology in your home. Find more information on parental controls at: [www.Internetmatters.org](http://www.Internetmatters.org)  
[www.saferInternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/a-parents-guide](http://www.saferInternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/a-parents-guide)

## Learning

- The Internet provides vast opportunities for children, both educationally and socially, especially during the current situation. As adults, it is important that we acknowledge the many wonderful and positive opportunities the Internet provides for our children; we just need to steer them in the right direction
- Ensure you make appropriate checks on anyone online offering educational support to you and your child; whilst many people will be acting with good intentions, it's important that we are all vigilant when children are using the Internet and act together to ensure they are protected from anyone who may pose a risk to them
- Encourage your child's creativity by teaching them how to take photos or make videos safely; these can be used to make a collage or be shared with family and friends
- Being online should be a sociable activity; keep your devices in a communal area and take it in turns to choose a game or video that the whole family can enjoy together. Why not take it in turns the good old fashioned way to beat the highest scorer?
- Create learning opportunities; just because they're not at school, doesn't mean children can't continue to learn new things. There are a number of educational apps and resources available online or simply encourage your children to safely research different things online

## Dialogue

- Maintain an open mind and positive attitude when talking with your child about the Internet.
- Take an active interest in your child's online activities and engage in their online world with them
- Ask your child which games, apps, websites or tools they like to use and why; playing together with your child can often open opportunities to discuss safe behaviour online
- Ask your child if they know where to go for help; do they know where to find safety advice or information about privacy settings and know how to report or block users on their games and websites
- Make sure your child knows that they should come to you, or another trusted adult, for help if something happens online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable

- Talk to your child about being kind online and encourage them not to retaliate or reply to cyberbullying and to keep any evidence; you may need to show your child how to take screenshots on their device
- Have a look at the following links for useful tips on talking to children about online safety in an age appropriate way:
  - [www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/have-a-conversation](http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/have-a-conversation)
  - [www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/onlinesafety/talking-your-child-staying-safe-online](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/onlinesafety/talking-your-child-staying-safe-online)
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## Appendix C - Websites to visit for more information

**Think U Know:** [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

The National Crimes Agency Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command (CEOP) have a website which is suitable for children aged 5-16 and a section just for parents/carers with advice and information.

**NSPCC:** [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk) and [www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety)

The NSPCC have produced resources for parents, including Net Aware, a tool which reviews some of the most popular apps. The website has helpful advice for parents about issues such as online grooming, 'sexting' and cyberbullying. They also provide a helpline for parents: 0808 8005002

**ChildLine:** [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

The ChildLine website has a wide range of info and advice on both online and offline safety. There is info about online gaming, grooming which can be shared with children. They also provide a helpline for children: 0800 1111

**UK Safer Internet Centre:** [www.saferInternet.org.uk](http://www.saferInternet.org.uk)

UK Safer Internet Centre provides a wide variety of advice and guidance to help you discuss online safety with your children. There are useful checklists for privacy settings on social networks and suggestions to consider before buying devices for your children.

**Childnet:** [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

Childnet has resources, including videos and storybooks, to help you discuss online safety with your children. It includes advice on setting up parental controls, cyberbullying and setting up a family agreement for safer Internet use.

**Internet Matters:** [www.Internetmatters.org](http://www.Internetmatters.org)

Internet Matters bring you all the information you need to keep your children safe online. It has a tool which guides you through how to set up parental controls on all the different devices in your home to protect your children.

**Parent Info:** [www.parentinfo.org](http://www.parentinfo.org)

Parent Info provides information to parents and carers about a wide range of subject matter, from difficult topics about sex, relationships and the Internet or body image and peer pressure to broader parenting topics like 'how much sleep do teenagers need?'

BBC "Own It" Website and App: [www.bbc.com/ownit](http://www.bbc.com/ownit) and [www.bbc.com/ownit/takecontrol/own-it-app](http://www.bbc.com/ownit/takecontrol/own-it-app)

The BBC Own It Website aims to help children aged 8-13 “be the boss” of their online lives. The website has a range of videos and activities to explore with children and even has a helpful app which can be installed on children’s devices to help them use technology responsibly

### If you are worried

Be alert to any changes in behaviour, language and attitude in your child that may indicate that something is upsetting them online, for example, if your child starts to withdraw from family and friends or becomes secretive about their online behaviour.

If your child discloses an online issue or concern to you, ensure you listen to them.

- Avoid being angry or blaming them; reassure them that they have done the right thing by telling you
- Take their concerns seriously; even if you feel they are overreacting or their worries are unfounded, it is important not to dismiss their feelings as this can prevent them from coming to you for help again in the future.
- Support your child to report and block people online who may have tried to contact them or have sent them nasty or inappropriate messages or content
- Help your child to report to the site or service where the concern happened
- Depending on the issue, you can report specific concerns online at:
- Inappropriate content: <https://reportharmfulcontent.com/>
- Terrorist content: <https://act.campaign.gov.uk/>
- Child Sexual Abuse Imagery: <https://www.iwf.org.uk/>
- Online Child Sexual Abuse: <https://ceop.police.uk/>

The Designated Safeguarding Leads (Mr Head & Mrs Marriott) are available to discuss any help you may need or concerns that you may have.