

Dear Parents/Carers

As we celebrate Internet Safety Day, we want to take this opportunity to highlight the importance of online safety for our children. The internet is a powerful tool for learning and communication, but it also comes with risks that we must be vigilant about.

At school, we are committed to educating our students about internet safety through our Personal Development Program, Assemblies, PSHCE lessons, and Tutor Time activities. These initiatives are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to navigate the online world safely and responsibly.

### **Key Risks:**

1. Cyberbullying: Children can be targets of bullying online, which can have serious emotional and psychological effects.
2. Inappropriate Content: Exposure to harmful or inappropriate content is a significant risk. This includes violence, explicit material, and misinformation.
3. Privacy Issues: Sharing personal information online can lead to privacy breaches and identity theft.
4. Online Predators: There are individuals who may try to exploit children online. It's crucial to educate children about not sharing personal information with strangers.
5. AI Risks: With the rise of artificial intelligence, there are new challenges. AI can be used to create deepfakes, spread misinformation, and even manipulate behaviour through targeted content.

### **How We Can Support Our Children:**

- Open Communication: Encourage your children to talk about their online experiences. Make sure they feel comfortable coming to you with any concerns.
- Set Boundaries: Establish clear rules about internet use, including time limits and acceptable websites.
- Educate About Privacy: Teach children the importance of keeping personal information private and the potential consequences of sharing too much online.

- Use Parental Controls: Utilize parental control tools to monitor and restrict your child's internet usage.
- Stay Informed: Keep yourself updated on the latest internet trends and potential risks. This will help you guide your children more effectively.

We would also recommend Keeping children safe online | NSPCC website which has a range of tutorials, guidance and support for parents on how to support your child with online safety.

We believe that by working together, we can create a safer online environment for our children. If you have any questions or need further support, please do not hesitate to contact us

Yours Faithfully,

The Leadership Group