

INTERNET SAFETY




None of us – of whatever age – is immune from encountering problems online, as a look through this website or the daily news will tell you. Our children are certainly at a vulnerable stage in their lives ... naturally more trusting than adults and hopefully having been less exposed to the darker side of the internet. They are also not as well equipped to deal with such issues – or their consequences. Some of these potential issues are as follows:

- Inappropriate contact: from people who may wish to abuse, exploit or bully them.
- Inappropriate conduct: because of their own and others' online behaviour, such as the personal information they make public, for example on social networking sites. Unfortunately, children can also become cyberbullies, especially when encouraged by others.
- Inappropriate content: being able to access or being sexually explicit, racist, violent, extremist or other harmful material, either through choice or in error.
- Commercialism: being the targets of aggressive advertising and marketing messages.
- Gaining access to your personal information stored on your computer, mobile device or games console, and passing it on to others ... or using your financial details such as payment card information.
- Enabling viruses and spyware by careless or misinformed use of their or your computer, smartphone, tablet or games console.

Staff training and information is disseminated through our Child Protection Training and in updates.

Students learn about keeping themselves safe online through our Personal Development programme, ICT lessons and assemblies. They learn what to do if they have a concern where to go to get help if they need it.

Parents can find help and advice at the following links:

	<p>CEOP: Information for parents about keeping children safe online: https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/</p>
	<p>Childline: Online and mobile safety: https://www.childline.org.uk/infoadvice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/</p>
	<p>NSPCC - Information on keeping safe and what to do if concerned: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/</p>