



# Online Safety

Information for parents,  
carers and students

## Remember: be SMART

**SAFE:** keep safe by not giving out personal information to people online

**MEETING:** don't meet up with someone you have only been in touch with online

**ACCEPTING:** don't accept e-mails or open files, pictures or texts from people you don't know

**RELIABLE:** people online may not be who they say they are. Friends that you only know on line are really strangers

**TELL:** tell a trusted adult (parent, carer, teacher) about anything that makes you feel worried, scared or uncomfortable

## We also talk to all students about The Four C's of online safety:

- **Content** - is what you are accessing appropriate?
- **Contact** - are the people you are talking to online keeping you safe?
- **Conduct** - are you behaving in a way online which will keep you and others safe?
- **Commerce** - are you making sure that you are not at risk from financial scams, etc?



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## Online Safety

An **online safety incident** relates to risks which may arise in relation to the internet or any form of communications technology. The actions may be inappropriate, distressing or illegal and may include:

- **Bullying** via e-mail, texting or social networking services
- Use of **webcams** to create or transmit inappropriate or illegal content
- Inappropriate or illegal **images** or video sent, received or viewed
- **Sexting**: inappropriate images sent via mobile phones
- **False profiles** created on social networking sites
- Finding **inappropriate content** whilst searching the internet
- **Using another's password** to post false information
- Inappropriate **sexual** comments or enticements
- Using **Bluetooth** to manipulate another person's mobile phone

## Further information

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

[www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers](http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers)

[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety)

## Ensuring safety online

### Prevention

One of the school's 4 expectations relates to how students should conduct themselves on line:

### **Be polite and well mannered and show consideration and respect for others at all times**

Issues around personal safety are discussed in assemblies, tutor time and PSHE lessons.

More specifically, online safety is addressed regularly in assemblies and ICT lessons. All Year 8 students have lessons delivered by a member of staff who has undergone specific training.

### Dealing with incidents

The school's priority when dealing with incidents of online safety is to work with parents/carers to ensure students' safety. We also want to ensure that students understand the implications of their actions, including any possible legal implications.

Where appropriate we will also work with the police, Children's Social Care and other agencies for advice, support and follow up.



## Top tips for Parents and Carers



**Be involved in your child's online life.** Just as you guide and support them offline, you should be there for them online too. Talk to them about what they're doing - if they know you understand they are more likely to approach you if they need support.

**Keep up-to-date with your child's development online.** Be inquisitive and interested in the new gadgets and sites that your child is using. It's important that as your child learns more, so do you.

**Set boundaries in the online world just as you would in the real world.** Think about what they might see, what they share, who they talk to and how long they spend online. It is important to continue to discuss boundaries so that they evolve as your child's use of technology does.

**Know what connects to the internet and how.** Your child will use all sorts of devices and gadgets; make sure you're aware of which ones can connect to the internet, such as their phone or games console. Also, find out how they are accessing the internet - is it your connection or a neighbour's Wifi? This will affect whether your safety settings are being applied.

**Consider the use of parental controls on devices that link to the internet, such as the TV, laptops, computers, games consoles and mobile phones.** Parental controls are not just about locking and blocking, they are a tool to help you set appropriate boundaries as your child grows and develops.

**Emphasise that not everyone is who they say they are.** Make sure your child knows never to meet up with someone they only know online. People might not always be who they say they are.

**Know what to do if something goes wrong.** Just as in the offline world, you want to help your child when they need it. Therefore, it is important to know when and how to report any problem.