

Online Safety information for Parents

Below is a compilation of all our safety features that appeared weekly in the newsletters; now in one place for your information. We hope you find them useful.

Staying Safe On-line – FEATURE #1 Online Gaming

Online games are social activities, and most have features that allow children to chat with others whilst they play. For information about the positives of gaming, the risks of in-game chat and measures you can take to help protect them, watch this short video: [In-game chat: a guide for parents and carers](#)

The PEGI (Pan European Game Information) rating system can be a useful tool to help you decide what online games are appropriate for your child. For more information on the PEGI system and other factors to consider before deciding what's suitable, read [Gaming: what's appropriate for your child](#)

Gaming is popular with both children and adults and can help to cure that lockdown boredom! If your child is gaming, you may have some questions about how to keep them safer. If so, check out - [gaming: what parents need to know](#).

For a guide on the apps, sites and games your child might enjoy, visit: [Net Aware](#).

Staying Safe On-line – FEATURE #2 – Chatting, Being Kind and Making Friends Online

This is the second of our weekly on-line safety updates to support you at home with parenting in the modern world. Last week's newsletter was all about online gaming. Remember you can find out more on the 'Curriculum Information' page under '[Staying Safe Online](#)' as well as the live feed on the home page of our website.

Primary-age children may not have previously had much experience with video chatting apps such as zoom, FaceTime and Skype, but may well be using them now for education or to keep in touch with family and friends. To make sure your child has a positive experience video chatting online, read this [guide for parents and carers](#)

The internet has many positive opportunities for children to learn and play, but it can also be used in negative and unkind ways. It's really important to speak to your child about being kind online, and how they can get help if they see or hear anything that makes them feel worried, scared or sad. Use these [conversation starters](#) to help your child understand the importance of being kind online.

The term 'online friend' can be used to describe people you only know through the internet, or those that you also know offline. Some children make friends online by meeting new people through online platforms such as gaming sites. To help children have positive online friendships, read this [handy guide](#).

Staying Safe On-line – FEATURE #3 – Watching Videos

From animals doing funny things, to slime-making and game-tutorials, the internet has lots of fun videos for children to enjoy. But the amount and availability of content online means that children may see something inappropriate. To understand what type of content might not be suitable and advice on how to help your child watch safely, watch this short [video guide](#).

The internet is a public and open space where anyone can post and share content. This can be fun and entertaining for children, but it does mean your child may see something that is intended for adults. Find out what to do if [you're worried your child might see something inappropriate online](#) or what to do [if they already have](#).

Children love to watch videos and YouTube is always a firm favourite! But sometimes children can be exposed to videos that are not meant for them. [YouTube Kids](#) is a safer way for children to explore their interests. You can find more information about this on YouTube: [what parents need to know](#).

Have a look at this useful website for ratings and content for what your child might want to watch (also includes games): <https://www.common sense media.org/homepage>

Remember, primary-age children should be supervised at all times when online.

Staying Safe On-line – FEATURE #4 – Sharing information, pictures and videos

It's harder to stay connected with our friends and family right now, so you may be sharing more images and videos of our children online via social media. But before you do, there are some important things to consider.

Read [sharing pictures of your children](#) for info on how to protect your younger, or older child whilst staying social. Using devices like phones and tablets to share pictures and videos can be a fun way for children to have fun and stay in touch with friends and family online. It's really important your child knows what's ok to share online and what they should check with you first.

Read [younger children sharing pictures or videos online](#) for more information on the risks and how to support safer sharing.

Personal information is any information that can be used to identify your child. Sharing personal information online is easy and sometimes children, like adults, might share more online than they would offline, which can be risky. Read [your child's personal information and how to protect it online](#) for information and advice.