



Online Safety Briefing Sheet

For Parents/Carers

March 2020

E-Safety is an important factor in today's society therefore it is discussed and revisited throughout the school year, during both Computing and PSHCE lessons.

In addition, an E-Safety Week takes place every year in Spring Term. Throughout the week children learn how to be safe when using various online applications.

With the ever-growing online world, it is important that children understand the dangers of giving out personal information. Children are educated about the risks of sharing this information whilst using online gaming, social networking and various applications such as: Instagram, Snap Chat and instant messenger. Both positive and negative points are raised and discussed.

Online Safety

We recognise that modern technology offers significant opportunities for learning and socialising and ever more so in these difficult times. Responsible use of technology to learn, communicate with friends and family and access support will be really important as the opportunities for face to face communication are restricted.

We want to ensure that parents/carers understand how to ensure young people stay safe online.

Advice for helping your child stay safe online

Keep personal information private; the children have been taught not to share personal details like address, school, phone number or location. Please reinforce this. Avoid posting anything that can identify you/your child to a specific location such as school, football club etc. That includes avoiding posting pictures of your children in an identifiable uniform or saying where you are going online. If you do post whilst they are in their uniform, blur the school logo out.

Make sure your security settings are in place so that you control who sees anything you share online and check these regularly. Don't share passwords and if you think your account has been hacked or cloned report it straight away and change your password.

We have taught the children that people online are not always who they say they are. Telling them to tell a trusted adult if someone makes feel uncomfortable online. Please take this seriously if they do report anything to you. Make sure they aren't spending long periods of unsupervised time online or on online video games.

Don't accept or open files from people you don't know they could contain viruses or inappropriate messages or pictures. Delete suspicious emails.

Not all information online is reliable, check if it is a trusted source before using it. Beware of pop ups that may take you or your child to less trusted sites and check web addresses look genuine. Beware of fraudulent emails, texts and links that take you to fake sites and never give your bank details even if they are promising you a cash prize or refund.

If you are unsure or worried:

All staff who work in school have a responsibility to safeguard and protect children and young people. If you have any queries or worries about anything, please speak to one of our safeguarding team.

If you've received something through Office 365 (Outlook or School Spider) that makes you feel uncomfortable you can e-mail: admin@westfieldinfants.co.uk to inform us.

Safeguarding Staff are available through the school number (0113 250 5449)

If you are worried that your child has been a victim of online abuse or you're worried about another child you can also report this to CEOP online at www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre

www.thinkuknow.co.uk have advice for all different ages including parents/carers on all sorts of online issues and where you can get support.