

Monday 14th March 2022









Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to remind you that we take cyber safeguarding seriously, and with the growth of applications children are accessing when not in the Academy, we would like to support you with keeping your child safe when online at home.

- Enable Parental control on all personal devices children have access to.
- Ensure that your children do not share any personal information with others when accessing an application or game.
- Ensure your child does not accept message or gaming requests from people they do not know.
- Ensure the application, game or programme that your child is accessing is age appropriate. You may be surprised at the age limitation some games have.
- Where possible, supervise your child when they are playing games or accessing apps online. If you are unable to supervise your child, ensure you are regularly checking their devices to ensure the content is appropriate.
- If your child has access to a messenger app, please ensure you are checking the correspondence regularly. It is through this monitoring that you will be able to identify any possible difficulties. Ensure that your child is not sharing the personal information of other children by adding them to group chats.
- Talk with your child to ensure they understand what to do if something is upsetting them or makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Screenshot and/or save any messages your child has received if they are of a bullying or inappropriate nature.
- Block anyone you suspect or bullying or being a risk to your child; to block someone on a particular site or app visit the site's safety page.
- If you are concerned that your child may be subject to cyber bullying, please inform a member of the Safeguarding Team at the Academy for support, and your internet provider.
- If threats have been made or you feel your child is being harassed you are able to report the nature of the incident to the police.
- If you are concerned about online grooming or sexual abuse, please visit www.ceop.police.uk for further information:



As many of our pupils are using various applications to communicate with each other outside of school, it is important that you are aware of the minimum age for common applications:

Application	Minimum age
 Roblox	13 years with parental consent
 Fortnite	13 years with parental consent
 Instagram	13 years with parental consent
 Tiktok	13 years with parental consent
 Youtube	13 years – to have their own account
 Meta	13 years with parental consent
 Snapchat	13 years with parental consent
 Twitter	13 years with parental consent
 Whatsapp	16 years

Other support services available for parents regarding online safety can be found at:

www.netaware.org.uk

www.saferinternet.org.uk

www.thinkyouknow.co.uk

Thank you for your co-operation and support.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Dysart
Deputy Principal