



# Social Media Safety Awareness

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The internet has changed all of our lives, particularly our children's. With most of our children using phones, tablets and laptops technology is opening up a whole new world of communication. For parents and carers this opens up a whole new world of things to be aware of. As with the real world, there are risks online and it's important that you teach your child how to navigate them.

Your child may be using technology to; play games online, chatting to friends, sharing pictures, video or messages, researching information, making friends or talking to people.

On Thursday Morning Miss Carney will be giving assemblies to all children in Year 5-7 highlighting appropriate use of social media and keeping safe online. The children will be made aware of the risks there are online and how to recognise dangers and how to keep safe.

In order to keep our children safe online; pupils will be encouraged to discuss and debate the issues surrounding this area. We will also watch a video which highlights just how easy it is to become vulnerable while using social media and how important it is that parents / guardians have control over their use of the internet.

We are aware that many children will be getting phones, laptops and tablets for Christmas. We ask that parents talk to their children about keeping safe online. We teach our children about stranger danger when out playing - we must also teach them about stranger danger while online.

We have included some links for websites which will help you discuss online safety with your child. We would also recommend that you watch the "Jigsaw" video from CEOPS (Child Exploitation and Online Protection )

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_o8auwnJtqE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_o8auwnJtqE)

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/safeguarding-children/>

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



If you have any questions or require any support regarding online safety please feel free to contact us. *Tracy Carney (U.I.C.T. coordinator)*

