St Vincent's Catholic Primary School
Safeguarding Newsletter- Autumn 23

Each term we will bring the latest safeguarding developments and information to you in order that we all work together to keep our school community safe.

Safeguarding Responsibilities

Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Harrop
Designated Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Farrell, Mrs Sutton
Designated Looked After Child Lead	Mrs Farrell
Designated Mental Health Lead	Mrs Sutton
Mental Health First Aiders	Mrs Harrop, Mrs Farrell, Mrs Sutton, Mrs Gee
Emergency First Aiders	All staff
Wellbeing Champions	Mrs Sheldon, Mrs Bullock, Mrs Dreniw, Mrs Davidson, Mrs Raw
Safeguarding Governor	Mrs Donnachie
Online Safety Governor	Mrs Butler
Health and Safety Governor	Mr Thorgaard

Who to contact if you have a concern about a child

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact any of the SLT Designated Safeguarding Leads straight away. They can be contacted via the school office by telephone on 0161 9118040

Alternatively, if you have a concern about a child, and they are not at immediate risk of harm, you should call Trafford Children's First Response on 0161 912 5125 during office hours (Mon - Fri 8:30 - 4:30), or 0161 912 2020 out of hours (Emergency Duty Team).

Contact Details

Are all of your contact details up to date? If you change your home phone/email/mobile number, please let the school know, so that we have the most up to-date contact details.

Filtering and Monitoring

Filtering and monitoring systems are used to keep pupils safe when using our school's IT system.

Filtering systems: block access to harmful sites and content

Monitoring systems: identify when a user accesses or searches for certain types of harmful content on school devices. Our school is then alerted to any concerning content so we can intervene and respond. We use it alongside our existing safeguarding systems and procedures. Our role is to monitor what is on pupils' screens.

Filtering and Monitoring at St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Parents can be reassured that at St Vincent's Catholic Primary School, we employ the highest quality filtering and monitoring systems to mitigate the risks of our children's online safety. The school uses Trafford Services, as its filtering system, employing a continuously updated series of keywords and watchwords to filter the content of the internet from any of the machines within the school system. Although no system is perfect, this has provided the highest quality of control on internet provision in school.

All school devices are part of the school's Smoothwall Monitoring program. The system monitors keyboard entry and reports key words and watch words as they are typed on any child's keyboard. This provides real time and highly effective monitoring of all users on the school system. This should provide parents and carers with confidence that their children's experience of the online world is safe and backed up by a broad curriculum of online safety guidance.

Children will be asked to explore an increasingly wide range of websites and digital content and will be required to use search engines to develop their skills as a digital citizen - using these systems of filtering and monitoring we feel secure in exploring the online world, giving us opportunities to learn about online risks as we progress through school. Internet safety is a huge part of our school curriculum and we challenge children to think about the key themes of content, contact, conduct and contract which form the four main areas for online safety. We believe that this gives them the best preparation for digital citizenship of the future.

Please remember to apply appropriate settings to children's devices when they are using the internet at home or on mobile devices. Please refer to advice and guidance to ensure children's devices are appropriately managed.

Filtering and Monitoring at Home

Home Broadband and WiFi
Home internet providers can offer parental controls for your family. You can:

- use a filter from your internet provider to control the content that you and your family see. Some providers allow different settings for each user
- set up any device connected to your home broadband. How you do this depends on your provider and you'll need to access your home router. You can ask your internet provider for help setting this up. Remember that this only affects your child accessing the internet through the WiFi – if they are using 4G or 5G to connect you need to check the settings on their mobile device too (see below).

Games Consoles
Most games consoles have internet access, which means your child can go online and chat with other players or make in-game purchases. On many consoles there are parental controls which allow you to manage which features are available to your child. On some devices you can:

- turn off chat functions to stop your child from talking to people they don't know
- restrict games based on age
- turn off in-game purchases, or set a limit.

Check the website for the console your child has for a parents section and details of features. Some games also allow you to change settings for that individual game.

PlayStation Family Management

On PlayStation consoles you can set up a Family Manager account which allows you to manage different accounts for different children/users. Within this you can manage a range of features, such as restricting communication with other players, restricting content, setting play time controls and set spending limits. See all the features available for PS4 and for PS5.

Mobiles, Tablets and Computers

All mobiles, tablets and computers have parental control settings, which can differ between devices, these include:

- allowing or disallowing in-game or in-app purchase
- settings such as location settings and what information your child is sharing
- wellbeing settings to help with limiting screen time.

You can get more advice about setting up controls on different devices from your mobile provider and the UK Safer Internet Centre.

On Apple devices such as iPhone, iPad, Apple Watch, Apple TV etc. there are features available for parents all tied into an account. You can set content and privacy restrictions, prevent purchases, allow or disallow apps and more. See what parental controls are available on Apple iOS devices.

Apps and Online Services

Many social media, apps and online services such as film and TV streaming services have features such as:

- content filters
- chat filters
- privacy settings
- in-app purchase settings.

You can find out about these features by looking in the settings on each app, or take a look at their website for more information. They might be called settings, family features, privacy or security.

Facebook has a Parents portal which helps explain the features available.

For **Netflix**, you need to visit the website to set up parental controls – we suggest you do this as soon as you create an account.

Microsoft Family Safety – by creating a family group you can manage many settings, such as setting screen time limits, blocking inappropriate content, receive activity reports, set app and game limits and more. To learn more about Microsoft Family Safety see the Microsoft page and Xbox Family Settings.

Search Engines

Sometimes, innocent searches can lead to not so innocent results. If you're worried:

- make sure the content your child sees online is appropriate for their age by using parental controls and filters in search engines like Google, Yahoo and Bing
- make sure you have set parental controls on the home broadband and devices.

Google Family Link - a very useful app to manage a range of features such as restricting content, approving or disapproving apps, setting screen time and more. For lots of useful information see the Google FAQ page.

WiFi and being away from home

The controls you've set up on your child's device and your home broadband won't work if they use 3G or 4G, public WiFi or log onto a friend's connection instead. Remember:

Public WiFi is often available when you're out and about, but it's not always safe.

Some public places and businesses offer family-friendly WiFi. When you see the family-friendly WiFi symbol it means there are filters to stop children from seeing inappropriate or upsetting content.

Talk with your child and agree what they can and can't do online. If your child is visiting friends or family, remember that they might not have the same controls set up.

Useful resources and links

Thinkuknow http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk
Thinkuknow is an education programme from the National Crime Agency's CEOP Command. Since 2006, it aims to ensure that everyone has access to this practical information – children, young people, their parents and carers and the professionals who work with them.

Internet Matters https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/esafety-leaflets-resources/
A comprehensive web resource with a wide array of tips and advice on how to navigate the online world with your child. Some of their guidance we attach below but you can find even more by visiting the link.

National Online Safety https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/
National Online Safety's mission is to make the internet a safer place for children. They aim to do this by equipping school staff, parents and children with the knowledge they need to understand online dangers and how best to react should an incident arise. The link above provides up to date information about a wide variety of social media apps and platforms your child might be using.

NSPCC http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/
The NSPCC are the first to admit that the internet is amazing. Children can play, learn, create and connect - opening up a whole world of exciting possibilities. But with the digital world changing all the time, how can you make sure your child's staying safe? That's where the NSPCC come in. Whether you're an online expert or you're not sure where to start, their tools and advice will help you keep your child safe.

Childnet http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers
Childnet International is a registered UK charity that aims to make the internet a safe place for children and young people. Packed with resources it is a great resource for parents.

CEOP http://ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/
Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) is part of the National Crime Agency and their website can be used to report if you are worried about online abuse or the way someone is communicating online.

BBC https://www.bbc.com/ownit
The BBC have a website and app called **Own It**. The website has a lot of content for children to help them navigate their online lives, and the free smartphone app comes with a special keyboard which can intervene with help and support in the moments that children need it the most.

SafetoNet https://safetonet.com/
SafeToNet is technology that educates children "in-the-moment" as they use their device. It is a safeguarding assistant that helps them become responsible and safe digital citizens. Its power lies in a smart keyboard that detects risks in real-time. It steers children away from trouble by filtering harmful outgoing messages before they can be sent and any damage can be done.

A Guide to Apps & Social Media

The number of apps and social media channels your child could be exposed to grow all the time, as does an app's functionality. We recommend you visit Net Aware to read the latest and **most current advice on over 70 apps** to ensure you know what they do, how you can limit their features as well as recommended age restrictions.

https://www.net-aware.org.uk/

Some of the apps included are:

- Fortnite
- Instagram
- Snapchat
- YouTube
- Minecraft
- Clash of Clans & Clash Royale
- Friv
- Dubsmash
- Wink
- YOLO
- TikTok

Resources for children to use

Below are some links that children themselves can access for help when navigating online safety.

Reception – Year 2

Below are a number of links that are tailored for children in the younger year groups.
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/
https://www.netsmartzkids.org/
https://www.childnet.com/resources/smartie-the-penguin

Year 3 – Year 6

Below are links more suitable for older children.
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/
https://www.nsteens.org/

As we approach the festive season, lots of children will be receiving gifts of technology, phones and digital Christmas presents. It is important that we continue to give advice about using these safely and also remembering online safety rules whilst accessing the internet.

Please find below some websites that will help with this:

https://www.internetmatters.org/onlinesafetyunwrapped/#missed-gifts

Every day in Advent, this website posted a new online safety tip, featuring games to play, guides to see and practical things to do.

https://www.childnet.com/blog/christmas-2022/

Giving devices this Christmas, an online safety guide for parents and carers.

https://nationalcollege.com/guides/12-tips-for-christmas

This is a free online safety guide which focuses on the 12 online safety tips for Christmas for children with new devices

.https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/as/public/ltttn/uploads/sites/1449/2019/12/11094706/12-Smartphone-online-safety-tips-guide.jpg

https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:EU:c3577d7a-0933-4dc9-b07e-14421bb55d8f

https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:EU:db440312-a0ec-429c-9896-98614348f38b