

31st March 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

The DfE have drawn our attention of the need to be sure that children are reminded about their **e-safety** learning. During this time, with the greater reliance on the internet, it is particularly important that they we are all 'on-line savvy'. Although we have recommended some websites, do be careful that your child is sticking to the ones that are suggested (and checked) or download resources yourself.

Please ensure that all devices, which link to the internet, have parental controls set to avoid accidental access to unsuitable sites. Remember to check privacy settings too. Equally, be careful not to 'park' your child on a website and become absorbed in your own pressing tasks as it is easy for children to move between sites or social media, without your knowledge.

This link is helpful for parents, providing general advice:

<https://lgfl.planetestream.com/View.aspx?id=787~3J~tXy2ME>

Should you have any concerns about what your child has accessed, reassure them that you will try to help them to resolve the problem. These are the suggested links to report any children's concerns:

- [Childline](#) - for support
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - to report and remove harmful online content
- [CEOP](#) - for advice on making a report about online abuse

We are being advised that some parents are supplementing schools' suggested study with additional online companies (and, in some cases, tutors). Please ensure that any such support is from a reputable organisation/individual, who can provide evidence that they can be trusted to have access to children.

These sites provide guidance on how to keep your children safe and are recommended by the DfE (I have used them, in the past, for our newsletter section - 'Spotlight on Safeguarding'):

- [Internet matters](#) - support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [Net-aware](#) - support for parents and careers from the NSPCC
- [Parent info](#) - support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [Thinkuknow](#) - advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - advice for parents and carers

Recently, we had a 'Peer to Peer Review' of the school by other local head teachers. The focus was on computing. The children, interviewed, had age-appropriate knowledge of how to stay safe online. It would be good, however, to recap some of this learning and have discussions with your children. The school website has the details of what we try to teach, by year group, regarding e-safety:

<https://www.harting.w-sussex.sch.uk/website/curriculum/144129>

It may be a helpful guide for such conversations. Additionally, remind the children of the year 6 'Take over' lessons – they created and shared e-safety PowerPoints with other classes!

We miss the buzz of children at school but hope that it is proving to be a time when adults enjoy more shared time with their youngsters. I hope you get to see how much knowledge your children already hold and what great potential they have.

Best wishes to you all,

Fiona