

[View this email in your browser](#)

Dear Paul

I hope you are well in what is a pretty wet and blustery week.

A bit thin on the ground with updates this week I'm afraid, but the first is a very pleasing one, the demise of website Omegle which I am over the moon with. This has been a problematic site for many years. But with Omegle gone, where will young people turn to next?

Updates

- Omegle - GONE!!
- Resource - Artificial Intelligence lesson plans.
- Parents - guide to WhatsApp.
- Parents - guide to Snapchat MyAI.

Omegle Gone

There were some massive sighs of relief last week when, finally, Omegle was shut down for good. This one site, which allowed any person of any age to be randomly paired with another person for 1-1 video chat, was responsible for countless CSE incidents. According to an article in [Wired Magazine](#) the site shutdown was part of a court settlement after a victim filed a lawsuit in 2021 after being exploited when she was 11 years old.

Whilst this is great news, the question is what next? Remember Chatroulette from many years ago? It's still around and there's talk of this increasing in popularity; those who are determined will always find an alternative. It's always good to keep up with the latest apps and platforms that are being used by children and young people but we always have to default back to good education. It isn't about the app, it's about digital literacy - the ability to use, understand and critically assess the safe and appropriate use of technology.

Resource - Artificial Intelligence Lesson Plans

SWGfL have put together a number of free lesson plans covering KS2/3/4 in a variety of areas:

KS2 - how machine learning works and some of the risks and opportunities.

KS3 - how AI systems are trained and how these can positively improve student work.

KS4 - Considerations around bias, ethics and copyright in AI systems.

You can access the resources [HERE](#).

Parents Guide to WhatsApp

As one of the most popular messaging apps used by all age ranges and around 2.7 billion monthly users, WhatsApp has been adding new features over the last year or so which some parents may not be aware of so it might be worth sending a reminder out to them. Internet Matters have put together a really good 'how-to' guide for parents which you can access [HERE](#).

Parents - Guide to Snapchat MyAI

I shared something similar to this a few weeks ago but I have now found a better explanation to the artificial

intelligence chatbot used within Snapchat. Chatbots are springing up everywhere now, including within apps that children and young people use, and there have been some concerns over the ethics, the information and guidance that is being given by the chatbot and more, particularly in relation to guidance that is age appropriate, privacy concerns and misinformation.

Wayne Denver has put together a really useful updated article for parents explaining what the chatbot is, how it works, the issues and some tips for parents. You can find the article [HERE](#).

Online Safety Training

Online Safety Subscription Service

Half-termly updates for your staff and parents.

Keeping staff and parents up to date with online safety risks and issues is time-consuming and often costly. This subscription service does the work for you in a flexible, cost-effective way with a 10-15 minute video for staff and a newsletter for parents. Full details plus costs can be found [HERE](#).

Online Safety Leads Course

The OSL course goes into much greater detail for those staff (e.g. DSL's, Computing Leads) who have a more involved responsibility for online safety in relation to curriculum, policy, management, risks and harm, filtering and monitoring and much more. You can see more details on the new platform [HERE](#).

Online Safety Training (staff, parents and students)

As well as physical in-school training (staff, students, parents) and virtual (Zoom/Teams) I also offer cost-effective pre-recorded video training as follows (each purchase includes a 12 month licence to use as many times as you wish within your setting):

STAFF INSET

There is a primary version plus a secondary/college version, the most recent videos were updated and re-recorded at the end of August 2023 to make sure they're right up to date. They take staff through the risk basics (content, contact, conduct and commerce), the spaces that children occupy online (games, YouTube and social media) plus the latest risks and issues with supporting advice and guidance. The video can be streamed or downloaded to the school network.

If you would like to see a sampler video you can access the 4-minute introduction [HERE](#).

Cost: £95.00 plus VAT (cost per school, not per person) for a 12 month licence. For Multi-Academy Trusts or if purchasing for a number of schools, discounts are available. Just email me and let me know how many schools you would like to purchase for.

PARENTS

The days of parents online safety evenings were often a struggle to get parents to attend, so I have created a series of 7 short videos for parents. On purchase, I will send you a MS Word document. This document contains the text, supporting links and video links for 7 emails (or other school communication) which you just need to copy, paste and send out to parents at a frequency of your choice (e.g. one a

week). You are also welcome to add your own text.

Cost: £149.00 plus VAT (cost per school, not per person) for a 12 month licence. For Multi-Academy Trusts or if purchasing for a number of schools, discounts are available. Just email me and let me know how many schools you would like to purchase for.

GOVERNORS/TRUSTEES

This video, recorded in Aug 2023, is similar to the staff video but from a governance context. Lasting for just over an hour it covers what online safety means, the risk categories, the online lives of children/young people, followed by a few simple questions that governors can consider with advice and guidance.

Cost: £95.00 plus VAT (cost per school, not per person) for a 12 month licence. For Multi-Academy Trusts or if purchasing for a number of schools, discounts are available. Just email me and let me know how many schools you would like to purchase for.

SECONDARY STUDENTS

This is a series of 10 videos, each of which are short (between 8 and 12 minutes) covering a range of different topics. These are ideal for showing in assembly to promote further classroom discussion/debate or within the classroom to go deeper into the topic. You will be able to download these videos for future use, or even use for virtual learning by sharing the link with students. The cost is £179 (plus VAT) for all the videos, not each. Full details and a sample video can be found [HERE](#).

[update your preferences](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#)