

Bowerhill Primary School Safeguarding Newsletter



Online safety is something we take very seriously. Children are spending more and more time online and it is important that we teach them the skills and knowledge to navigate the online world safely. We are seeing a growing number of children using social media sites and being exposed to inappropriate and unsafe content on these sites. We would like to remind parents that most social media sites have an age restriction of 13+. The “spotlight” feature this issue focuses on top tips for parents for online safety. We took part in Safer Internet Day on 7th February with all classes thinking about how they can stay safe on the internet and what to do if they are worried. One of the main foci further up the school is being aware of who you might be talking to online and the importance of not giving away any personal information. If you would like any further information about specific apps, please get in touch. More information for parents and carers can be found at <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>; www.internetmatters.org or www.childnet.com

At Bowerhill Primary School we strive to safeguard and promote the welfare of all of our children.

The Safeguarding Team

If you have any concerns about a child's welfare or safety, please speak to a member of the school's safeguarding team:

Mrs Amor (DSL)

Mr Light (DDSL)

Mrs Williams (DDSL)

Alternatively, please contact MASH directly on: 0300 456 0108 (Out of hours: 0300 456 0100)

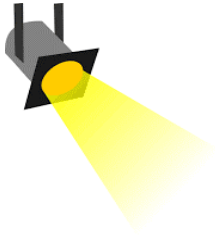


APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS

13+		16+	
Facebook	Snapchat	WhatsApp	
Instagram	Twitter		
TikTok	Kik		
YouNow	Yubo		
House Party	Monkey		
		17+	
		Sarahah	
		YOLO	
		18+	
		MeetMe	
		LiveMe	

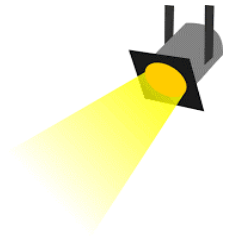


Safeguarding Our Children



SPOTLIGHT on Online Safety

TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS



+ Make space for regular conversations about life online

Talk openly and frequently about what you are doing online and encourage your child to do the same. Talk about the positive experiences you can have online, share what you have done when you have come across content you did not want to, and how you dealt with the situation.

+ Make space for enjoying and exploring the online world together!

Play games, watch videos, and express an interest in your child's online life. Celebrate all the opportunities that technology has to offer, and show them what a great space the internet can be when used responsibly.

+ Make space for working as a family to agree expectations for going online

Talk to your family about the role technology plays in your lives. Establish rules and expectations that encourage meaningful use of technology, in the same way you set boundaries in other areas of your children's lives. It's important to review these regularly and adapt them for each member of your family.

+ Make space for learning about the apps, games and websites your child is using

There are lots of tools and guides to support you with keeping your child safe on whatever apps, games and websites they are using. Research age ratings, privacy settings, and safety features (like the block and report button) so that you are best placed to help your child should anything go wrong.

+ Make space for supporting and reassuring your child if things go wrong

Remind your child they can talk to you about anything. If something goes wrong, listen and respond with reassurance and kindness and stay calm. Work with your child to find solutions to the problem, perhaps by using the block and report tools or seeking advice from your child's school.

Useful acronyms, terminology and abbreviations

Cyber bullying: the use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature.

E-safety: being aware of the possible threats that online activity can bring, and how to deal with them.

Social networking: Connecting to others using the internet