Tips for Parents

It's a really good idea to have an understanding of the games that are played by children and the Apps that are used when your children communicate with their friends. https://www.net-aware.org.uk/ is a brilliant website that outlines all of the details you need to know.

Most Popular

Instagram
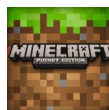Instagram is a picture and video app to post content and use hashtags.

Snapchat
Snapchat lets you send messages or 'snaps' to contacts, which appear for up to 10 seconds.

YouTube
YouTube lets allows you to watch, create and comment on videos on a public profile.

MinecraftPocket Edition
Minecraft is a game that lets you create a virtual world using building blocks and chat to others.

TikTok
TikTok is a social media app that lets you watch, create and share videos. 12+

WhatsApp
WhatsApp is a messaging app, often used for small groups. 16+

You can click on a game or an App and it will tell you more information. *For example, did you know that Minecraft is aimed at 13+?*

Minecraft: Pocket Edition
Gaming | Messaging

13+ Minimum age according to Minecraft: Pocket Edition
This is Minecraft's PEGI age rating. What do you think is the right age for this game? Share your thoughts

The PEGI website is very informative and can help parents to find out more information about the content of games. There is a really good video to explain all about game ratings and the symbols used to describe the content.

Did you know that the spider symbol means that a computer game contains something scary or that the age of a game is colour coded with a traffic light system?

https://pegi.info/what-do-the-labels-mean has more detailed information about choosing age appropriate games.

FEAR

3 www.pegi.info | 7 www.pegi.info | 12 www.pegi.info | 16 www.pegi.info | 18 www.pegi.info

Finally, one last tip is to check your child's profiles and accounts **frequently** to ensure that they are being safe online. Ongoing regular conversations and asking your child to show you what they are posting will help you to keep your child safe online.

School Council Online Safety Tips for Children

BRAMHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL 1966 Excellence for All

SHADWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL 1967 Excellence for All

All children use technology at school, at home or even on the go via a smart device; schools are keen to use the benefits of the internet to support children's learning.

The internet provides children with excellent opportunities for learning and communicating with friends so it is **vital** to make sure that our children understand that they are as much at risk online as they are in the real world.

The section on the back page is to help parents locate important information about keeping children safe. Sometimes parents may feel they don't know enough about the internet or online world to protect their children from the risks.

This leaflet aims to help children keep themselves safe online by providing information on the risks and tips about what can be done to stay safe.

At school and at home, the internet may be used to:

♦ find out information;

♦ send messages to friends through email, instant messaging and direct messaging;

♦ talk to people online in chat-rooms, forums or when playing games;

♦ share information about themselves and talk to people on social networking sites like Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat;

♦ share their opinion on blogs, vlogs (video blogs), and videos (for example on YouTube);

♦ share files and download music, games and films.

There are many benefits from using the internet as it can help to:

• improve achievement at school • learn important computer skills • improve confidence and communication skills • develop hobbies and interests • find a wide range of information to help with schoolwork.

What are the risks when using the internet?

It is important to be aware of the risks associated with being online in order to be **SAFE**. This is discussed regularly in lessons at school. **Risks can occur as a result of the following:**

♦ **Viewing unsuitable material on websites**

Web searches come up with a range of information and images, and some of it may not be suitable for children. Children may also receive emails that have unsuitable images or content such as links to adult websites or viruses that attack the computer.

♦ **Forming online friendships with adults who pose a risk to children**

Some adults may use the ability to talk to children online as way of making friends with them, often by pretending to be a child themselves even though they are an adult. This person may then arrange to meet the child with the aim of being unkind to them or to hurt them.

♦ **Children may also share personal information or photographs of themselves on social networking sites**

This can often provide enough information to allow them to be contacted or located by unsuitable adults and other strangers.

♦ **Buying over the internet**

Children may be tempted to reply to advertisements and offers they receive over the internet and give out financial information (such as the details on a bank card) that can lead to fraud (when people lie to steal money from bank accounts) or identity theft (when people pretend to be someone else).

♦ **Cyber bullying**

This can happen anywhere online. For example, when talking in chat rooms, when gaming, when sending mobile phone texts, or when instant messaging, and sending direct messages through Apps. All social networking sites and emails can be used as ways to bully children. Sending offensive or threatening messages or posting mean comments online are all ways that cyber-bullying can occur. Unkind comments can be constant and it can feel hard to escape them.

Just as there are rules to keep safe in the real world, having rules to help you stay safe online are equally important. For example, you would tell an adult where you are going, who you are going with and what time you will be home if you are allowed to go out with your friends. You also know that you have to pay careful attention when crossing the road. It's a really good idea to have similar rules for using the internet.

Follow these simple rules to stay safe online:

♦ Do **NOT** open an account on social media unless you are old enough. The age restrictions are in place to keep children safe. *Did you know that the age for using Facebook (and other types of Social Media) is 13?*

♦ Do **NOT** give out personal details online, such as your name, address, school name, or anyone else's personal details.

♦ Do **NOT** upload photographs or information onto social networking site unless your profile is private.

♦ Do **NOT** arrange to meet people who you have only met online; in fact, it is **EVEN BETTER** if you are not 'friends' with people you don't know in real life.

♦ Do **NOT** open attachments to emails unless you know and trust the person who sent it.

♦ Do **NOT** buy anything off the internet without the permission of a trusted adult.

♦ **ONLY** use a webcam, Skype or FaceTime when talking to people you know and trust, like a family member.

♦ Tell a trusted adult **IMMEDIATELY** if you receive any messages or content that makes you feel uncomfortable.

♦ **REPORT** unsafe content and messages and **BLOCK** people you don't know.

♦ Do **NOT** say anything online that you would not say in front of your teachers or parents. This includes writing nasty comments and using bad language.