Dear Parents,

**Importance of Internet Safety for Primary Aged Pupils**

I hope this letter finds you well. We are aware that some of you were not able to attend our input in school for pupils and parents on internet safety. This letter will update you on the key points discussed in these important sessions.

As the digital world continues to expand and reshape society, it becomes increasingly important for our children to be digitally literate. At St Bede’s school, we believe that teaching our pupils about the safe and responsible use of the Internet is a crucial aspect of their education.

Internet safety, or online safety, is about protecting personal information and reputation in the online world. It's about making sure that children and young people can enjoy all the benefits of the Internet, without being exposed to any of its potential dangers.

There are several key areas that we believe are essential for our pupils to understand:

1. **Personal Information and Privacy**: Children should understand that they need to keep their personal information private and not share it with strangers. This includes addresses, phone numbers, and school information.

2. **Online Communications**: It's important for children to learn that not everything they read online is true. They should also understand the importance of communicating respectfully with others.

3. **Cyberbullying**: Understanding what bullying is, and that it's not acceptable in any form, is crucial. Children should know what steps to take if they or someone they know is being bullied online.

4. **Digital Footprint**: Everything we do online leaves a digital footprint. Children need to understand that whatever they post online can be seen by others and may stay online forever.

We encourage you to discuss these topics with your children and assure them that they can always come to you or any member of the school staff if they have any concerns about something they've seen or experienced online.

Thank you for your support in ensuring that our pupils can make the most of the Internet and digital technology in a safe and responsible way.

The platforms below will provide more information about keeping children safe on – line:

Internet Matters, Childnet, UK safer Internet Centre and Thinkuknow.

The NSPCC offers resources like Talk Pants and Techosaurus to help parents talk about online safety with their children

Please remember we at St Bede’s want to help you to keep your child safe, if you suspect abuse, grooming or exploitation please come to speak with us, or you can report this directly to CEOP

Best regards