July 2025 Online Safety Update.

This month's Online Safety theme is "Cyber bullying - and what to do when your child is the bully..?'

As parents and carers, we know that cyber-bullying is a huge concern. We might understand how important it is to make sure our child knows how to block, delete and report any discriminatory or derogatory comments (and if we don't how to, download the National Online Safety app - it's free and has information on all the most popular apps and platforms used by young people). However, it can feel shocking and confusing when it is our child who is doing the bullying.

Top tips:
1) Don't panic! Your child may not engage in bullying behaviours offline and may have forgotten that online behaviour is just as serious.
2) Talk to your child about the impact of their words, and to give themselves time to sit and weigh up the risks of making cruel and insensitive comments
3) If appropriate, talk to them about times famous people have shared or posted mean comments and look at the impact it has had on them, the other person, and their careers.
4) Help your child to review their interactions and delete any comments they now regret making.
5) Model apologising to your child so they can know how to say sorry if they have stepped out of line.
6) If they are on social media, gain access to their login details so you can monitor their language and behaviour online - and then help them to make changes.

As always, if you have any concerns about your child's Online Safety (or any other safeguarding matter), please do not hesitate to contact the pastoral team on 0121 569 7080