



3rd February 2025

RE: Online Safety

Dear Parent/Carers,

We are writing to address the growing concern about the responsible use of social media and online gaming platforms, and to encourage open communication between you and your child regarding their online activity.

Some children have reported to us, the use of online gaming and subsequent online content that has caused them distress and confusion. We are also aware that some children have reported accessing games and television content that is not age appropriate. Where these cases are known, we are addressing this with our families.

I have included some tips below for supporting a joined-up approach between children, parents, and teachers. In school we will of course be picking up these issues as part of our curriculum.

If you don't already have <https://families.google/familylink/> you may wish to install this or similar on your devices, so that you can monitor and support your child's safe use of social media.

Key Points:

- **Monitoring and Awareness:**
As parents, it is crucial to be aware of the social media platforms your child uses, who they are connected with, and the content they are sharing. Regularly check their devices and have open conversations about their online behaviour.
- **Age Appropriateness:**
Ensure your child is using platforms that are age-appropriate and adhere to the terms of service regarding minimum age requirements.

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- **Cyberbullying Concerns:**
Cyberbullying can have serious consequences, and we encourage you to talk to your child about the importance of respectful online conduct, reporting any instances of bullying they encounter.
- **Privacy Settings:**
Review privacy settings on social media accounts to limit who can see your child's personal information and posts.
- **Digital Footprint:**
Remind your child that anything posted online can be seen by others, including potential employers, and should be considered carefully.
- **Screen Time Management:**
Set healthy boundaries regarding screen time and encourage other activities that do not involve technology.

You can report any concerns and there is more information here

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/>

Other useful websites

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/social-media-3>

If you have any concerns about your child's online use, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, or email office@lympshamcofeacademy.co.uk

We know that by working together, we can create a safe and positive online environment for our students, and teach them the skills they need to navigate the online world.

Kind regards,

Mrs K Whiting
Executive Headteacher

