On-Line Safety

(**The Forge Online Safety Policy**)

At Home

As a parent/carer, you'll know how important the Internet is to children and how much they use it. It can offer them a world in which they can explore their interests, learn and also socialise with others. It's a creative place of wonderful opportunities. Parents can worry about how much the on-line world changes for their changes and at great speed and the risks your child can face online - such as bullying, contact from strangers, or the possibility of them seeing illegal or inappropriate content.

To help engage with your children regarding their use of the internet while at home. Here are some conversation

Find out more about how to stay safe online :

Useful Safety Online websites:

Smartphone Safe - If you would like to know more information on how to keep your child safe when they are using a smartphone here is a very useful and informative link here. Childnet is a great website resource for parents and children on online safety. Internet Matters is another great site to use - it has advice on cyberbullying, how to talk to your children about internet safety and quick guides to different types of social media such as Instagram and Snapchat.

Childnet — Online safety for young people

Here are quick links to a range of Internet safety sites that you may find useful too...

[Teaching Your Child about Internet & Online Safety | NSPCC](#)
[Safer Internet](#)
[CEOP Police Report](#)
[Free Online Safety Guide](#)

The digital world is moving at such a pace that it is necessary to try to stay on top of events in today's world. No child should have a Facebook account until they are 13 years of age. Problems encountered from social media relationships and issues can be reported either to the police or CEOP. For further support discuss with the Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs C Northway

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The NSPCC have a series of videos and information links that can support parents/carers in talking to their children about the safe use of the internet. The campaign 'Share Aware' is aimed at parents/carers of children ranging from age 8 to 12 years and is helpful in understanding online safety. The campaign is intended to support parents/carers in having effective conversations about staying safe online.

[NSPCC Share Aware - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Furthermore, the NSPCC has a free resource - [Net Aware](#) - to which they have now added sites, apps and games in their campaign for on-line safety. Parents/Carers are encouraged to use interactive resources to assist conversations with their children. The site explains what other parents and young people think about 60 of the most popular social apps and games, the right age, and details on privacy and safe

There is a lot of information on the [Common Sense Media website](#) that parents/carers will find useful regarding games, apps, videos, and age ratings and suitability.