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Dear Parents

Being safe online

In school, a significant proportion of our Computing and PSHE curriculums cover how to be safe online. In these challenging times, we are encouraging our children to be online more than ever and it is so important that they are using the Internet in a safe way.

The government has published some advice for parents specifically for this period of learning at home and you can find it here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

The guidance states that It is important to have regular conversations about staying safe online and to encourage children to speak to you if they come across something worrying online. It lists some helpful websites and help lines you can access as parents to support you in these conversations.

It highlights the harms your child might experience online such a child sexual abuse – a definition, exposure to radicalising content, youth-produced sexual imagery ('sexting'), cyberbullying, exposure to age-inappropriate content, such as pornography, exposure to harmful content, such as suicide contents. The document takes each harm in turn and gives helpful advice and guidance for parents.

If your child is worried or needs support, they can receive advice and support from Childline (0800 1111) or download the 'For Me' app. If you need help to support your child's mental wellbeing, the guidance includes a list of online education resources for home education including mental wellbeing resources which provide guidance on how to support the wellbeing of children and young people.

Your child's class teacher will also be able to offer support and guidance if you need it.

In these times of social distancing and isolation the Internet has never been more useful – but we all need to use it safely. Hopefully this guidance will support you in keeping your child safe online.

Best wishes

Helen Frampton

Headteacher

Enjoy

Aspire

Achieve