



19 September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 6

Cyberbullying and Internet Safety

We have had a couple of complaints already this year about children sending and/or receiving abusive messages online. We do talk to children and give them advice about staying safe online as part of our computing curriculum, but we cannot control what they do online outside of school. We sent the following advice out last term but are sending it again as a reminder and to stop this before it becomes an issue.

There are some simple actions you can take to make sure your children are safe online.

1. Remember: you have chosen whether or not to buy your child a smart phone, tablet or games console and you pay their bill. All devices have parental control settings. It is your responsibility to make sure your child's device is set up so that they cannot purchase or access inappropriate apps or sites.
2. Talk to your child about why they go online, what apps and websites they use and what they use them for.
3. Find out about the apps and websites your child is using. It is very easy to post and access inappropriate material on most social media apps. This is why the vast majority of them should not be used by children under the age of 13. You would be shocked by some of the videos, images and messages your children can access online.
4. Explain to your child that what they post online can be seen, saved and used by others. They must think before posting.
5. Never share personal information online.
6. Never respond or retaliate to abusive messages or posts.
7. Block users who post abusive messages.
8. Save, take a screen shot or print abusive messages you see or receive.
9. Always report abusive messages or posts to the service provider and, if appropriate, to the police via the CEOP website (ceop.police.uk).

If you want further advice there are a number of useful websites you can access:

report-it.org.uk

childline.org.uk

bbc.co.uk/webwise

safe.met.police.uk

Thank you for your support with this issue,

Guy Fairbairn
Headteacher

