

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School



Live, Love and Learn with Jesus

SAFEGUARDING AND SAFE INTERNET USE



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Dear Parent/Carer

Children today have the most wonderful opportunities to learn in exciting, interactive ways. Contact with others is much easier now that we have so many mobile devices. However, we must all be vigilant in ensuring that our children can use modern media safely, confidently and securely.

Parental tools provided on reliable websites are there to help but they don't provide a fail-safe solution to keeping children safe online. Content filters are useful for blocking certain types of material but some of the risks facing children online are as a result of their own or other people's behaviour, such as cyber bullying or over-sharing information. The best outcomes for children come from parental engagement and support.

In order to embed lessons on safety in school, mums, dads and other carers need to talk to their children and make sure they know how to stay safe online. If their children are older, it's important for parents to discuss with young people how to act responsibly online and be respectful to others.

Remember - parental tools can be a very helpful resource but they are not a substitute for knowing what your children are doing online and for being there for them when they need you.

SOME USEFUL SOURCES OF SUPPORT

- WebWise: Share Take Care - Guide to online parental tools
- WebWise: Share Take Care - Keeping teenagers safe online
- WebWise: Basic online skills - list of guides
- BBC iPlayer: Parental guidance lock

**Our school website has a dedicated section on
ONLINE SAFETY.**

You will find this in the "WELLBEING" tab.

www.staugust.bham.sch.uk



The following sites also provide useful information to help you keep your children safe when interacting with others via the internet:

- UK Safer Internet Centre: How to set up parental controls
- Childnet International: Advice on parental controls
- Digital Unite: How to install parental controls
- Which? guide: Parental control software
- Get Safe Online - Safeguarding Children
- saferinternet.org.uk

In school, we regularly discuss the importance of respect and safety with regard to all kinds of interactions with others. This is done in assemblies, Religious Education lessons, PSHE focus times, ICT lessons, Anti-Bullying Week in the Autumn Term, theatre presentations and other occasions when appropriate. Re-visiting such themes is vital in our efforts to embed relevant values and actions in order to prepare children for the adult world.

We value highly your support in ensuring that the children are supported at home in learning to use technical media in sensible ways which show respect for themselves and for others. We look forward to continuing our partnership with parents and carers in order to equip young people with the necessary skills for future success in life.

If you have any questions about child safety, please contact us at your earliest convenience so that we can assist you.

S
Stay Safe
Don't give out your personal information to people / places you don't know.

M
Don't Meet Up
Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Always check with an adult you trust.

A
Accepting Files
Accepting emails, files, pictures or texts from people you don't know can cause problems.

R
Reliable?
Check information before you believe it. Is the person or website telling the truth?

T
Tell Someone
Tell an adult if someone or something makes you feel worried or uncomfortable.

Follow these SMART tips to keep yourself safe online!

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Search safely and keep parents informed

Always protect yourself and others at all times

Feel comfortable with all your contacts

Everyone must respect each other

S

SAFE

Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information – such as your full name, email address, phone number, home address, photos or school name – to people you are chatting with online.



M

MEETING

Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present.



A

ACCEPTING

Accepting emails, IM messages, or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!



R

RELIABLE

Information you find on the internet may not be true, or someone online may be lying about who they are.



t

TELL

Tell your parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.

**THINK
U
KNOW
CO.UK**

You can report online abuse to the police at www.thinkuknow.co.uk

