Online Safety Recommendations for Parents

Students safety is our first priority and everyone's responsibility. Please follow the below guidelines to help keep young people safe online.

If you have any concerns, please contact school, see the website for details.

Please go through the "**Student Acceptable Use Policy for Home Learning**" (below) with your child.

Please **discuss regularly** with your child all aspects of their experience online, not just their learning, social media and gaming too. Please ask them key questions, reassure them you want to learn and understand their online world, not to judge or criticise them. Small and often is usually better than a big one off "talk"!

> *"Which apps are popular in your year? What are the best/worst things about social media? How does it impact young people's mental health? What are the riskiest things people your age do online? What would you say to one of them if they asked you for advice on some of those risks?"*

Use **Parental Controls** (see below), so that you protect young people from websites that use pop-ups, advertising or harmful content such as pornography, hateful or extremist propaganda, online fraud, gambling or other addictive activities. This will reduce risks but will not eliminate them as no filters are a substitute for supervision.

Supervision and monitoring by a parent is not always possible, but it is the best way to ensure your child does not end up on websites or applications that might try and engage them in inappropriate content. Please consider having no screens in bedrooms, especially at night, setting agreed and reasonable boundaries on screen time and trying to find a balance that works for your family!

We use Microsoft Teams for setting homework, streaming assemblies and some "live" remote teaching. These are recorded to enable us to follow up any issues or concerns that may arise and understand how we can develop best practice. Students are not to record lessons.

There is a wealth of **useful information** to support you as follows. Please also see the safeguarding page on the school website.

Setting up parental controls, age specific advice	www.internetmatters.org
Making a Family Agreement on Screen Time	www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers
Learning about games, apps, websites	www.commonsensemedia.org/

I understand that I must act in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of my home network or the school ICT systems and other users.

For my own personal safety:

- I understand that the school expect my parent/carers to monitor my use of the systems, devices and digital communications, at home;.

- I will keep my username and password safe and secure – I will not share it, nor will I try to use any other person's username and password. I understand that I should not write down or store a password where it is possible that someone may steal it.

- I will be aware of "stranger danger", when I am communicating on-line.

- I understand that there may be times when someone tries to gain my trust on-line in order to persuade me it is safe to give them access to personal information, images/video, social media accounts or data. I will report any attempts to a trusted adult.

- I understand not all information online is reliable, including fake people and fake news.

- I will not disclose or share personal information about myself or others when on-line (this could include names, addresses, email addresses, telephone numbers, age, gender, educational details, financial details etc)

- I will not arrange to meet people off-line that I have communicated with on-line without parental knowledge and accompanied by an adult.

- I will immediately report any unpleasant or inappropriate material or messages or anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I see it on-line.

I will act as I expect others to act toward me:

- I will be polite and responsible when I communicate with others, I will not use strong, aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions.

- I will not take or distribute images of anyone without their permission.

- I understand that some online content is illegal such as any explicit images of under 18s. Violent, hateful. racist, or prejudiced views against other groups may also be illegal or upsetting and I will not access, share, like or respond to any inappropriate content.

- I will not open any hyperlinks in emails or any attachments to emails, unless I know and trust the person / organisation who sent the email, or if I have any concerns about the validity of the email (due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes)

I understand that I am responsible for my actions, both in and out of school:

- I understand that the school also has the right to take action against me if I am involved in incidents of inappropriate behaviour, that are covered in this agreement, when I am out of school and where they involve my membership of the school community (examples would be cyber-bullying, use of images or personal information).

Student Name   Year

Parent Name   Date