



7 February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is a focused day on how to stay safe on the internet. The internet is an incredible tool, if it is used safely. Here at BFS we want to make sure we celebrate the positive benefits of the internet and use of technological devices whilst keeping all children safe online.

Today we have spoken about internet safety within each class, using the theme of this year's Internet Safety Day – Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.

There are many worries as a parent about the increase of technology use and how this effects our children. Being educated on key issues allows us to keep our children safe and protects from any dangers the internet may bring.

The following are precautions and advice that is advised to take when setting boundaries and protecting your child when using a device and accessing the internet:

1. Parental controls: You should use parental controls which will help to keep your children safe when they are using the internet at home – these are accessible via your internet provider and usually fairly easy to install.
2. Talk to your child about their online world, what games are they using, make sure these are age appropriate, have you viewed them, is this what you think is suitable for your child? What chat rooms are they accessing, remind them that the person they are talking with is not necessarily who they say they are. What limits can you put on this? What does your child access on their phone, do you know much about these links and groups? Find out if you don't and then decide if you think they are ok for your child.
3. Raise any concerns you have with the **Online Safety Champion (Miss Megan Pike)** at your school or you can access advice online. Serious concerns of grooming or criminal activity should always be reported to the police.
4. The UK uses the PEGI (**Pan European Game Information**) system to give games their age ratings. Please be mindful of the age ratings of games and apps your child is playing.

Further information to support conversations at home can be found at <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

As always if you have any questions, please do get in contact.

Best wishes

Megan Pike

SEND/Wellbeing Lead

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