

## SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

January 2023

# Working TOGETHER to achieve the best!



#### **Games Consoles**

Most games consoles are internet enabled. Which means you child can go online and chat with other players or make ingame purchases.

Like with mobiles and tablets, the controls on your games console help you to manage what your child can and can't do.

Some devices allow you to:

- Set up different profiles for each family member.
- Deactivate the internet.
- Turn off chat functions to stop your child from talking to strangers

### **Mobiles and tablets**

Lots of mobiles and tablets come with settings that can help you manage what your child can and can't see or do online.

When using parental controls, make sure to check things like location settings and what information your child is sharing with others.

It is most important to talk to your children about what they're doing online.



# **Online Footprint**

An online footprint is a record of how people spend their time online, which means everything we do online or on social media platforms can be traced back. Therefore, if shared information isn't protected they can follow us around for the rest of our lives.

Once you send a message, post a comment or upload a picture it no longer belongs to you and you cannot control where it will end up. Employers routinely check the social media history of potential employees so comments/pictures etc put online when younger can and often do affect your future.

### Who can you speak to if you are concerned?

**Designated Safeguarding** lead (DSL)—Mrs Brockhurst Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead (DDSL)—Mrs Brian

Family Support Worker -Mrs Rogers



### **TOP TIPS**

#### A quick guide to staying up-to-date with what your child is doing online

- Think about how you guide your family in the real world and use the parenting skills you already have, such as showing an interest in their lives and the company they keep, to do the same in the digital world.
- Try out the technologies your child enjoys. Download some of their music and have a go at games they like.
- Talk to friends and family about how they manage their children's digital lives. Remind older siblings that websites they use may not be suitable for younger brothers and sisters.
  - Make digital issues part of everyday conversation. Use news stories or things that have happened to people you know, to raise subjects like cyberbullying, sexting and copyright infringement by downloading music or films you haven't paid for.
- When you're talking about bullying, sex and relationships and other issues, don't forget to include the online aspects.
- Ask your child about whether the issues they face are different online and offline.
- Don't be afraid to set boundaries and rules. Children may complain but research shows they respond to this.
- Talk to your child about them controlling their online reputation by thinking before they post or share anything.

Watch out for our #WakeupWednesday

information leaflets from National Online Safety.

These will provide you with useful information about things you need to know regarding different apps, games and the technological world.

