

18th January 2019

Dear parents and carers,

We hope your family had a fabulous Christmas holiday and are back into the swing of things. In school we have heard that Santa has delivered lots of wonderful Christmas gifts including Nintendo Switches, X-Boxes, PlayStations, iPads, mobile telephones, laptops, ipods and much more...he's been very busy! With many children now able to get online with their own device, we wanted to share some e-safety advice.

6 essentials to keep your children safe online

Follow this list to help keep your children safe online:

1. **Use parental controls** to block upsetting or harmful content, control in-app purchases or manage how long your child spends online. They're really easy to set up, more info about setting controls on mobiles, tablets, home broadband, games consoles, apps, wifi, films, music and TV is on the [NSPCC web pages](http://www.nspcc.org.uk), (www.nspcc.org.uk) and there's a useful helpline number too.
2. **Regularly remind your kids not to give out personal information**, like their address, phone number, school name or email address. It can be easy to forget with live streaming videos (like YouTube) that anyone could be watching, and it's important not to give away too much information about themselves.
3. **Get to know the games, apps and social media sites they use**. Learn how to use them yourself and how their privacy, block and reporting settings work. Staffordshire Police (www.staffordshire.police.uk/article/8716/cyber-grotto) have produced some quick and easy to follow guides to parental controls on PlayStation, Xbox one and Nintendo Switch.
4. **Make sure they know that people aren't always who they say they are** online and that they don't accept friend requests from people they don't know (even if the person has mutual friends, it doesn't mean they can be trusted).
5. **Talk about the risks of sharing photos** online or sending them to others. Once they're out there, they're out there!
6. **Let them know that you're listening** and want to know if anything at all makes them feel uncomfortable online, no matter what.

Need to know more?

These are the places we've found the best advice and guidance:

- [NSPCC](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/) (www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/) great for easy-to-follow parental control guides and knowing what to talk about;
- [Think u know](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) (www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) great if you're concerned, need to understand social media or are worried about online abuse;
- [Staffordshire Police](http://www.staffordshire.police.uk/article/8716/cyber-grotto) (www.staffordshire.police.uk/article/8716/cyber-grotto) great for videos showing you how to set parental controls on PS4, Xbox one, Nintendo Switch and PEGI and local advice;
- [Livestreaming article](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/live-streaming-responding-to-the-risks) (www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/live-streaming-responding-to-the-risks) great if you've got a budding youtuber on your hands;
- [internetmatters](http://www.internetmatters.org) (www.internetmatters.org) great for cyberbullying advice;
- [CEOP Child exploitation and online protection command](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre) (www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre) - if you suspect abuse report it to one of their specialist advisers now.

Advice on keeping children safe can also be found on our school website, www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk.

We hope you find the above information useful, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a member of staff.

The Moorlands Primary Federation team



Diocese of Lichfield



www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk

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