Respect for All. Learners for Life

Lister
Infant School
and Nursery

Online Safety

Tips to help you keep your children safe online.

April 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach half term we are aware there may be an increase in use of smart phones, tablet computers and games consoles. All of these devices engage children in a stimulating interactive environment. Used appropriately, they can be fun and beneficial to learning but used inappropriately they can be a risk to children. All adults have the responsibility to support children to make the right choices when online. We would like to point out some simple measures that can be applied at home for you during the 2 week break.

If you need further advice please contact the school and check our website.

Kind Regards
Miss Manley
(Computing/Online Safety Lead)

www.listerinfants.org.uk

Tips for you to keep your children safe online:

1. Consider locating your computer or mobile devices in a family area where children's online activity can be monitored or supervised.

2. Talk to your child and ask them to show or even teach you how they use the internet and learn about websites or tools they like to use and why.

3. Make sure your child knows it is important that they tell an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable.

4. Remind children that they should use the same caution online as they would in the real world. Tell them they should never go to meet someone they have spoken to online.

5. Install antivirus software, secure your internet connection and use Parental Control functions for computers, mobile phones and games consoles to block unsuitable content or contact.

6. Familiarise yourself with the age limits in social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat and Instagram etc. There's an age limit in place for a reason, if you decide to allow your children on to these sites make sure you know how they can protect themselves when they are using them. For example- knowing how to set appropriate privacy settings.

Teaching Online Safety is an important part of keeping our children safe and we do this in school using age appropriate resources to demonstrate the risks and how to avoid them. It is very important that the children take these messages with them at the end of the school day and are supported when using technology at home. Each and every adult has a responsibility to protect children and this includes protecting them when they are online. Below is a list of websites that you may find useful.

www.thinkyouknow.co.uk- Visit the Parent/Carer section and use the Click CEOP button to seek advice and report online abuse.
 www.saferinternet.org.uk- Advice, guidance and 'Top Tips' for both parents/carers and children.
www.childnet.com – Visit the 'Know it All' section for an interactive guide about Online Safety.
www.getsafeonline.org.uk- Free up to date security advice including using passwords, privacy settings, safe searching and social networking.