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Dare to fall, learn to fly.

Dear Parents/ carers,

As technology continues to play a larger role in our children's lives, it is important to be aware of the potential risks that come with using the internet. In school we have a number of safeguarding measures to keep children safe while on school computing equipment. Children have told us that they feel safe while online at school.

As online safety is a shared responsibility, we wanted to reach out to share some tips and resources that you may find useful in order to ensure the safety and well-being of your child while online at home.

These may be something you are familiar with and already do, however it is really important with the speed of change in technology that everyone stays as up to date as possible.

It is recommended that you as parents / carers:
1. Set clear rules and boundaries for internet use at home. Monitor your child's online activity and have open conversations about appropriate behaviour online.

2. Teach your child about the importance of privacy and the dangers of sharing personal information online. Encourage them to be cautious when interacting with strangers on the internet. We have a SMART poster that we have shared to give more information on how we teach online safety in school.

3. Install parental control software on your child's devices to block inappropriate content and limit their access to certain websites. We have software in school that filters and blocks inappropriate content. This is tested and monitored.

4. Stay informed about the latest trends and threats in online safety. Visit websites such as Common Sense Media (www.commonsensemedia.org) or the National Online Safety website (www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for helpful resources and tips. We have also made some content available on the school website for you to view.

5. Encourage your child to come to you if they ever feel uncomfortable or threatened while using the internet. Let them know that they can trust you to help them navigate any challenges they may face online.

We will also be asking children to sign a internet usage agreement, a copy is attached. This will open up the conversation with the children about online safety after our assembly before

half term during Online Safety Week. It will also set really clear expectations for use of online and computing equipment in school.

By working together, we can create a safe and positive online environment for our children. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours Sincerely,

Rachel Collins
Computing Lead

If you are looking for more resources on online safety for parents, you can visit the following websites:

1. Common Sense Media: www.commonsensemedia.org
2. National Online Safety: www.nationalonlinesafety.com
3. Internet Matters: www.internetmatters.org

These websites offer a wealth of information and tools to help parents protect their children online.