

# Bellfield Primary School



## Online Safety – Edition 1



### Online Safety

Welcome to our new monthly 'Online Safety' newsletter – our One Stop Shop for everything e-safety!

Each month we will look at providing helpful top tips – sometimes you will find information directly relating to issues affecting our school community and sometimes it will be information that is more general. Through our computing curriculum, we teach pupils 'how to keep safe online and with your support this can extend beyond the classroom.

Being online is an integral part of our children's lives. Social media, online games, websites and apps can be accessed through mobile phones, computers, laptops and tablets – all of which form a part of children's online world. The internet and online technology provides new opportunities for learning and growth, but it can also expose them to new types of risks.

Over the years, we have seen a greater use of technology and this has meant, unfortunately, we regularly have to deal with children using WhatsApp/TiTok/Instagram, along with many other apps and social media platforms, to bully others. The use of social media has also meant a greater risk to pupil safety.

It is not enough to protect children from online harms by simply banning sites or installing firewalls and filters – try to maintain an open and ongoing discussion about online safety at home/as a family/with your children. Talking openly and honestly with your family about e-safety is the best way to support your child to develop healthy online practices.

Talking regularly and making it part of daily conversation, just like you would about their day at school, will help your child feel relaxed and they are then more likely to come and speak to you. It can also be easy to become overwhelmed with the different technology, the language that children use, the huge number of games and apps, which are available, and the potential risks.

NSPCC have joined with LEGO to create six 'adventures' to help parents/caregivers talk to children about key online safety topics through playing with LEGO. (Please see the link below for more information)

<https://www.lego.com/en-gb/sustainability/children/buildandtalk?locale=en-gb>

Please keep an eye on our Facebook/Twitter page – you will also find helpful links to the National Online Safety site – they produce information every Wednesday. (#WakeUpWednesday)

*At Bellfield Primary School we "Believe, Persevere, Succeed."*