

# Safeguarding Newsletter 3

## Autumn Term 2024



### WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999

#### DSL Team



Mrs Brazier DSL



Miss Cooper  
Deputy DSL



Miss Harrison  
Deputy DSL

We can be contacted via the office or by telephone on:

01653 693 675

### Advice on new devices for Christmas

As the Christmas season approaches, many parents and caregivers will be considering getting children their first internet connected device. Whether it's a smartphone, a tablet, or a gaming console, it's important to set boundaries from the start to ensure healthy tech habits and safety. Take a moment to think about how your child currently uses technology and how you envisage them using the new device

#### Why implement boundaries from the start?

Allowing children unrestricted access to the internet can expose them to various risks that many parents may not initially be aware of.

Here's why setting boundaries when your child first receives a device is important:

Exposure to inappropriate content: The internet contains content that may not be suitable for children, from graphic images to violent videos and adult websites.

1. **Cyberbullying:** Online platforms can sometimes become spaces for cyberbullying. Children with unrestricted access might be more vulnerable to encountering or participating in harmful behaviour.

2. **Privacy and online predators:** Children may not fully understand the importance of keeping personal information private, which can lead them to overshare details such as their name, location, or school. This information can be used by online predators, who often frequent online spaces where young people are active.

3. **Screen addiction and mental health:** Too much screen time, especially on social media or video platforms, can lead to issues like screen addiction, reduced attention span, and mental health struggles.

4. **Impact on sleep:** Unrestricted access often means children use devices late into the night, which can interfere with sleep and, in turn, affect their focus and performance in school.





Autumn Term—PSHE Curriculum We believe that one of the best ways to safeguard children, is through equipping them with the knowledge and skills for how they can keep themselves safe. Safeguarding themes are threaded through our curriculum and the enrichment opportunities we offer in school. Some examples include:

- Weekly PSHE lessons for EYFS to Year 6
- Assemblies
- Internet Safety Discussions & Displays
- Involvement in Anti Bullying Week and Mental Health Awareness Week



Autumn 1 Jigsaw theme is **'Being Me in My World'**

Autumn 2 Jigsaw theme is **'Celebrating Differences'**

**For more information on our PSHE curriculum please follow this link**

**<https://www.amotherbyprimary.co.uk/page/?title=PSHE&pid=81>**

## **HOW CAN YOU SAFEGUARD YOUR CHILD?**

Parenting can be hard work and the online world our children live is ever changing. Knowing your child's online activity is key to keeping them safe.

### **Prevalence of Online Activity:**

- 89% of children aged 10-15 in England and Wales go online every day.
- 17% of children in this age group spoke with someone online they had never met in person in the past year .

### **Risks and Incidents:**

- 19% of children aged 10-15 exchanged messages with someone they never met before in the last year .
- Over 9,000 child sexual abuse offences involved an online element in 2022/23.
- Around a sixth of people experiencing online harassment offences were under 18.

### **Parental Involvement:**

- 64% of parents or guardians have rules about the length of time and when their children can go online .

### **So what can you do?**

#### **COMMUNICATION is key.**

1. Talk to your child about their online activity
2. Remind your children if they see something they don't understand, find upsetting or scary that they can talk to you about it

## Understanding Age Restrictions on Games



**Fortnite**



**Roblox**



**Minecraft**



Thank you for taking the time to read our safeguarding newsletter. If you ever have any concerns about your child's safety or well-being, please don't hesitate to contact the school directly. We're here to support you and ensure that every child remains safe and protected at all times.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Brazier

Headteacher