



# Bolney CEP School | Online Safety Newsletter– November 2020

## Dear Parents

We hope you found the first Online Safety newsletter helpful and informative. As we are now in a second lockdown, children will be spending more time online as a way of communicating with their friends as well as playing games. In this month’s newsletter we will be providing you with the latest information about how to keep your child safe online.



### How do we start the conversation?

Start with reassuring the children that you are interested in their life both online and offline. Just like when they come in from school, we ask them about their day and to find out what they have been doing. Ask them what games they like playing and why, be positive even if you hear something that may worry you; if they do say something that worries you then your response could be something like; ‘I’m a little bit worried about this site’. Tell them they can always come to you with a concern or worry.

### How might the children respond?

The children may feel uncomfortable, worried, angry, confused or happy when asked about their online life. It is really important what we as parents and teachers know what our children are doing and remembering that they could be using the internet for research, gaming, chatting to friends or just watching videos. The internet can be and is a valuable resource so we do not want to ban or limit their screen time without knowing how they are using it.

An amazing website that has lots of advice for parents is called Net Aware, associated with the NSPCC and O2.



# Where can we find support?

Net Aware have researched the latest apps, games and social media our children are using. This link will take you to the many different apps, games and social media sites and will give you the information you need to support your conversations about their online life: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/>

The link below will take you to a website called Parent Protect where you can find two extremely useful documents for you to read about how to keep our children safe and it includes information about safe search engines as well as safe sites for children to use.

<https://www.parentsprotect.co.uk/files/Leaflet%20for%20parents%200Oct%202014%20WITHOUT%20EATBULLYING.pdf>

We are hearing the words Cyber Bullying more and more in the media and on the Net Aware website you can find out what is meant by Cyber Bullying and advice about what to do if your child is being bullied online. Not all experiences online are positive and we need to ensure our children know what to do and how to get support when they do experience a negative one. Check out this link for more on Cyber Bullying:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/>

As mentioned in our first newsletter, there are many support networks out there for us. In the first Lockdown this year, we added some online safety resources on to our website for you to access specifically for doing in the home. There are packs for each age group and they can be found on the amazing website Think U Know. Each of these family activity sheets have a selection of short conversation starters, practical tips and fun tasks to do as a family. Let us know what you think of these.



The packs can be found here on these links:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/early-years/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/5-7s/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/8-10s/>

As always, if you would like further support or have any questions, please contact me by email at:

[cjames@bolneyprimary.school](mailto:cjames@bolneyprimary.school), Mrs Clare James