

14.06.2021 Dear Parents/Carers/Grandparents,

Re: Esafe Parental Workshop Monday 28th June 6pm – 7pm ONLINE VIA Teams.

In a survey of 825 adults and children between the ages of seven and 16, Shared Hope International found one out of eight parents allowed their children to use the internet from the age of two.

What is Online Safety?

It can be called E Safety (or e-safety), Online Safety or Internet Safety, but it all means the same thing. It's about risk; it's about being aware of the possible threats that online activity can bring, and how to deal with them.

These risks are grouped into four categories:

- 1. Conduct: children's behaviour may put them at risk.
- 2. Content: access to inappropriate or unreliable content may put children at risk.
- 3. Contact: interaction with unsuitable, unpleasant or dangerous people may put children at risk.
- 4. Commercialism: children's use of platforms with hidden costs may put them at risk.

Unfortunately, regardless of parental intentions and involvement, the Kidsafe Foundation reports nearly 32 percent of teenagers hide or delete their browsing history from their parents. It is imperative for parents to be diligent. Likewise, 16 percent of teens have email or social media accounts their parents are unaware of. Often, children even lie about their ages in order to create such accounts, attracting attention from older children or even adults.

In order to support our Parents and Carers in this area we are holding **a free**, **online Parental workshop with ESafe**. This workshop will help support you at home and provide you with an insight into what the children will be covering with ESafe in class.

Information regarding the workshop:

Online content is having a massive influence on shaping our children's thoughts, feelings and mental health. Lock-down has only managed to strengthen its influence and in school we are noticing increased safeguarding and well-being issues



concerning the use of social media and gaming. We know that the online world is now a vital and positive aspect of our lives but we want our children to have the right tools and knowledge to help them keep themselves safe.

We have invited Kat Howard from eSafe to present **an online Parents only workshop on Monday 28th June 6:00pm** (Teams invite to follow) which will help inform and support the work she will do throughout the day, in all classes, on Tuesday 29th June. We feel it is vital that, not only our children, but that Parents too are fully informed and aware of the dangers that may lurk online.

Kat Howard has been working in and with schools for over 19 years. During her time as a teacher, she taught in primary, secondary and the independent sector. She has consulted with many schools and trusts to develop their understanding of Online Safety and supported school leadership teams to implement and embed policies, procedures, training and committees. She is passionate about the importance of online safety in schools and the wider community and supports schools with advice and support on a day-to-day basis.

During this workshop, Kat will give you lots of practical hints, tips and activities to support your children in this environment. The areas we will be exploring include gaming, applications, reliability of information and online reputation. There will also be an opportunity to discuss aspects of online safety with Kat during a Q&A. We look forward to seeing you on the 28th June at 6pm.

We look forward to seeing you at the event. Please can you fill in the form below to indicate if you intend to attend the meeting.

Kind Regards,

Sarah Annette

Family name: _____

We are going to attend the Parents/carers and Grandparents eSafe online workshop on Monday 28th June at 6:00pm.

Signed: _____