



E-Safety

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Greengate Lane
Academy

E-Safety News



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Welcome to our first edition of the Greengate Lane Academy E-Safety newsletter.

The newsletter will be produced each term and will be available online at: www.greengatelane.sheffield.sch.uk

The aim of this newsletter is to give parents, carers and pupils up to date news and information about how to stay safe online both in school and at home. On the following pages you are given a website which has some excellent online safety information for parents, carers and children. There is also some information on the more popular apps that children access.

In the summer we are hoping to set up an informal session in school where parents and carers can learn more about e-safety.

If there are any articles you would like to see in the newsletter or if you would like further information on any of the articles in this newsletter please see **Mrs McConnell**. The next newsletter will be in the summer term and will address any issues raised.

Remember the SMART rules to stay safe:

S: Be Safe

M: Don't Meeet Up

A: Accepting Emails can be Dangerous

R: Reliable?

T: Tell Someone!

Think then Click

- Remember to think before you click
- Only use the internet when an adult is with you
- Only click on buttons or links when you know what they do
- Always ask if you get lost on the internet
- Be polite and friendly to people you know on the internet

ThinkUKnow

This is a very easy to use website with a great deal of information for children, parents and carers.

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

The website is easy to navigate and has information and resources which are appropriate to particular ages groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-13, 14+ with an additional area for parents and carers to visit.

The site gives children (and parents/carers) information on ways to stay safe online; how to report anything which makes them feel uncomfortable and also an fun area where they can learn how to be safe online.



Facebook

Facebook is a global social networking site which can help children to develop their digital and technologies skills. However, there are risks attached to this which need to be understood. All users should ensure that children are aware of the dangers from people who may want to 'friend' them, or share pictures etc.

Make sure that you and your children know how to report things on the Facebook site.

Any child under the age of 13 should not have a Facebook account



Instagram

Instagram is a popular service which allows users to take and edit photos and videos and post them online. These photos and videos can then be shared. It is very important to change the privacy settings as the accounts automatically default to allow anyone to view the photos and videos.

The minimum age for this app is 13.

Remember that any comments created about other users photos or videos must not be hurtful to others.



Instagram

WhatsApp

WhatsApp is a messaging service where users can exchange messages using their existing phone contacts. The service is now available on most mobile devices and allows users to create groups and send each other images, video and audio message as well as the usual text.

There is an age restriction on the service of 16.

It is important to remember that this type of service allows content to be shared and may not be appropriate for children.

Advise your child that if they are uncomfortable with anything they should exit the site and speak to you about it.



ooVoo

ooVoo is a video chat app. It allows you to make video and voice calls and send texts to friends and family. It is available free to download on many devices.

The minimum age for this app is 13.

Think safe!



Remember to check your privacy settings as the app allows you to talk to your friends and with people you don't know.

Kik Messenger

Kik messenger is free instant mobile messaging app. It allows users to exchange messages online and is very similar to WhatsApp and Blackberry Messenger (BBM). Kik users can create groups and send each other text, image, video and sketch (drawing) messages. This app also has an inbuilt web browser allowing the user to search the internet, Youtube and other sites.

The minimum age for this app is 13.

If you allow your child to have an account, agree that you must have access to the account and agree a password together so that you able to check messages etc.



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The ethos of Greengate Lane Academy is underpinned by the belief that each child has the right to work, play and learn in a friendly, safe and supportive environment. Equally we believe that all members of staff have the right to deliver their professional responsibilities in a similar environment.

The staff and governors at Greengate Lane Academy take steps to ensure that all children in school are safe when using the internet.

We would like parents and carers to support the school by ensuring that their children are also safe when using the internet at home.

If you have any questions about E-safety please contact Mrs McConnell in the school office.

Parents' and Carers' Guide to the Internet

It is vital that parents and carers are aware of and involved in their child's online activities. Some parents and carers feel overwhelmed and lacking in the confidence to deal with the complex issues their children may face online.

Relationships between parents and carers and their children can influence behavior online.

Research from Ofcom (2011) has shown:

- **Half of parents (48%)** with children aged 5-15 who use the internet at home think they know less than their children do—**this rises to 70%** of parents of 12-15 year olds.
 - **Three in ten parents of 5-15s (30%)** who use the internet at home are very or fairly concerned that their child may be giving out personal details to inappropriate people.
 - **77%** of parents of children aged 5-11 and **81%** of parents of children aged 12-17 think **that they know what their child does online**; however, **33%** of children aged 12-17 claim that their parents **do not know what they do online**.
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