Tuesday 2nd February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re Helping to Keep your Children Safe On-Line
Firstly, we'd like to thank you for the fantastic support you have been giving to your children as we all get used to the new norm that is Remote Learning. Naturally, as a result of this increased exposure to the on-line world, it is even more important that we do all we can to ensure that our children use the internet safely, and to minimise the chances of accidental exposure to material which might be disturbing, or inappropriate in any way.

We know that this is a concern to many parents. As a result of different families accessing the internet via different devices and through different providers, we have produced this guide which we hope will help you find the answers to questions such as:

- **How to discuss on-line safety with your child**
- **How to set up parental controls on a device**
- **How to set up Safe Search on Google**
- **How to activate parental controls on your broadband**.

Discussing On-Line Safety with your children
It is universally recognised that the first step towards keeping children safe on-line is to have an open and honest conversation with them about the dangers, as well as the benefits of the internet, and what to do if they accidentally encounter something they aren't sure about.
There are many sites and resources which offer videos and activities on this theme for all age groups, as well as advice for parents on where to start. One such excellent site is **The UK Safer Internet Centre**

The UK Safer Internet Centre is a partnership of three leading organisations: **Childnet International, Internet Watch Foundation and SWGfL**, with one mission – '**To promote the safe and responsible use of technology for young people**.' The link below leads to many age appropriate and fun activities for your child to do and for you to discuss with them.
https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/young-people/resources-3-11s

Setting up parental controls on a device
Whether your child is using an iPad or a laptop, Smartphone, or Play Station, it pays to take a few minutes to adjust the filters on what they may be able to access, if only accidentally. This can be easily done in a few clicks. The links below give simple instructions for the vast majority of devices. If your device isn't mentioned, let us know and we'll do our best to add it to the list.

ENGAGEMENT ENJOYMENT ENTHUSIASM = EXCELLENCE.

Headteacher: Mrs. Wendy D'Arcy

Hardwicke Parochial Primary Academy,
Poplar Way,
Hardwicke,
Gloucester.
GL2 4QG

Email: admin@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk
Website: www.hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk

Telephone: 01452 720538

Android devices (ie not Apple or Chrome) **https://youtu.be/v78WRojBkaQ**
Apple (IOS) devices **https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304**
Play Station **https://youtu.be/Z-Mi2Ej72Fk**

Other Devices (eg Kindle etc)
https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/

How to set up Safe Browsing in Google
If you use Google to search the web, Safe search can be accessed by going to:
https://www.google.com/preferences Simply select the Safe search option! (Be aware, however, that if your child uses other browsers, then similar adjustments would need to be made on those as well.)

Internet Service Provider Parental Controls
Perhaps the most comprehensive way to ensure that the internet environment that your child is using at home is safe, however, is via the Content Filters provided by your home Internet Service Provider.
Content filters are a tool typically included in parental control software. Filters aim to reduce the chances of children coming across inappropriate content while surfing the web.

All major broadband providers, including**: Virgin, Sky, BT and TalkTalk**, offer content filters as standard. See the links below for instructions from each provider as to how to set yours to suit your child's needs.
Virgin Media
https://www.virginmedia.com/shop/broadband/parental-control
BT
https://www.bt.com/help/security/how-to-keep-your-family-safe-online-with-bt-parental-controls-an
Sky
https://www.sky.com/help/articles/set-up-parental-controls-on-your-tv
Talk Talk
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6AZrv2ZxrI
https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/talktalk

We hope you find this information useful. Please feel free to contact us if you have any quesitons
Yours sincerely

Mr Gray & Mrs D'Arcy

Love your neighbour as yourself.
We care, learn and achieve... together.

THE DIOCESE
OF GLOUCESTER
ACADEMIES TRUST
unlocking potential