



# St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the Spring edition of our E-safety newsletter. The information provided here is intended to bring to your attention the current issues surrounding E-safety and responsible technology use that are particularly relevant to families with primary aged children. In addition, there are a number of helpful hints and tips to keep you and your family safe online. The links provided in this newsletter will take you to trusted third party sites where much more information and support can be obtained.

## The latest advice for parents from Dorset Police's Child Online Safety team.



1. **Talk, talk, talk.** The most important thing for parents and carers is to have lots of conversations with their children and young people about what they are using, how these website/apps work, why they enjoy them, who else is using them etc. In this way they may be able to identify any risky *content*, inappropriate *contact* or *conduct* at an early stage.
2. **Allow access to the internet from devices within the family space.** We do not recommend children and young people having computers or games consoles etc in their rooms.
3. **Check virus protection.** Ensure that mobile devices and laptops have the relevant software to protect from viruses and other malware. There are several free brands that update regularly and provide good protection or there is other commercially available software.
4. **Subscribe to their Internet Service Provider's family filtering service.** All major providers now have this service free of charge – the account holder simply goes to their account online and ticks the relevant boxes. This will prevent different types of content from being available via the router in a particular location. Note this does not have any effect on devices that are not accessing the internet via the router eg 3G/4G phone signal.
5. **Use Safe Searching.** Most search engines such as Google and YouTube have a safe search facility under the settings menu. Parents and carers of young children particularly may wish to use this to stop them coming across inappropriate material.
6. **Tighten privacy settings on websites and apps.** Parents and carers should try to ensure that any social media accounts or apps are set to the highest privacy settings to prevent unknown or inappropriate people from viewing or contacting children and young people – this can be found under Settings in most websites/apps. Often the default setting for these types of account is public meaning that everyone can see content including pictures and videos.
7. **Consider using Parental Controls on devices.** Parents and carers may wish to use Parental controls on laptops, mobile devices or games consoles. These controls can limit the times the device can be used, whether apps/games can be downloaded and whether the internet can be accessed. iPads, Windows and new Android (4.3 or higher operating system) have built in parental controls: for older Android devices, apps may need to be downloaded to provide parental controls.



[Follow this link for more guidance about keeping your children safe online.](#)





# Welcome to CEOP Education

The National Crime Agency's CEOP Education team aim to protect children and young people from online child sexual abuse.

We do this through the CEOP Education Programme which provides training, resources and information for children and young people, their families and those who work with them.

Explore our websites for more.

Are you...

4-7?

8-10?

Parent/  
Carer?

11-13?

14+?

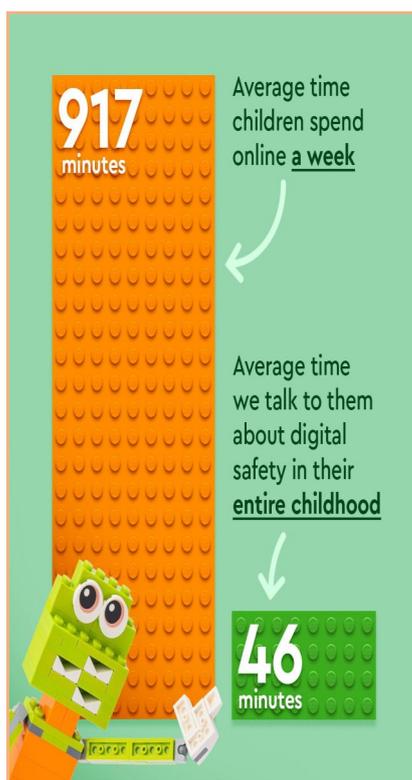
Children's  
workforce?

## LEGO Build and Talk

LEGO® have created Build and Talk to help you chat to your child about digital safety and well-being. Firstly, you pick an activity to do and then you read a story, which includes questions and conversation prompts, whilst they build with their LEGO®. This is a great way to start talking about online safety with your child!

<https://www.lego.com/en-gb/sustainability/children/buildandtalk/>

Whilst you're there, view their guides on key topics related to online safety <https://www.lego.com/en-gb/sustainability/children/digital-child-safety/> or play Doom the Gloom with your child, which will support them in using the internet safely: <https://www.lego.com/en-gb/campaigns/kids/doom-thegloom>.



If your child is online (for example playing games, using Snapchat, Instagram etc), then it's important that we talk to our child about being kind online, for example only posting positive comments, don't say anything they wouldn't say in real life and treat others as they would expect to be treated. Your child also needs to be aware that what they see online isn't always the full picture.

People only share what they want you to see and images are often filtered. It is also important that your child knows how to block and report any inappropriate behaviour when they see it.

BBC Own It have curated a collection of videos, quizzes, and tips to help make the web a kinder place: <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/curations/being-kind-online>

Further information <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/feeling-good-on-social-media/>

## PASSWORD

\*\*\*\*\*|

### Don't share passwords

Does your child understand that they should not share their passwords with others? The risks include the other user viewing personal information about your child, they could take control of your child's account by changing the password and then use the account inappropriately or they could spend money from your child's account.

Learn more here:

<https://www.childnet.com/help-andadvice/new-online-accounts/how-can-i-keep-my-account-secure/>

## Smart TV / Streaming services

There are so many TV streaming services available now such as Netflix, Prime, Apple TV, Now TV and Disney as well as more families having Smart TVs, which connect to the internet and allow you to download apps and access YouTube for example. This means our children potentially have access to a lot more content, some of which may not always be appropriate to watch.

If your child does access content through these services then, as always, make sure you set parental controls so they can only view content that is suitable for their age.

Each service will have their own parental control settings with most of them using a Parental PIN so you can restrict what can be viewed (and purchased in some cases).



### BBC Own it keyboard and App

Did you know BBC Own It has a keyboard and app? Download the app on your child's phone to access the special keyboard, which will offer advice as they type and intervenes for example, if they're sharing their mobile number, the app will tell your child to 'think safe' before they send the message.

Find out more here: <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/takecontrol/own-it-app>

BBC Own it also has a dedicated area for you with video guides on useful topics such as 'the transition from primary to secondary school' and 'supporting children with social media apps' and links to other useful sites.

Click here to access: <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/curations/parents>

