



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

Online Safety Newsletter

Edition 1 – Autumn Term

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the first edition of our termly newsletter, '**Online Safety**'.

The Internet is an exciting and integral part of the modern world, and can be an exceptional tool for learning. However, using the Internet is also fraught with risk, and teaching our children, and supporting parents to **keep their children safe** when they're online and/or using social media platforms is of paramount importance to us.

Whether it's protecting personal data, or avoiding viruses and inappropriate or illegal materials, or promoting Internet safety is crucial in helping young people protect themselves online.

We hope that this newsletter provides some helpful information, but if you have any questions or concerns, please do speak to a member of staff. More information can also be found on our website: [Thameside Primary School - Online Safety \(thamesideschool.co.uk\)](http://thamesideschool.co.uk)



Parental controls

Below are some links to support you in setting parental controls of various devices to ensure your children are protected when using the internet.

What are parental controls?

Parental controls allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content. They work across your WiFi, phone network, individual apps and devices.

Parental controls can help you to:

- Plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for.
- Create content filters to block apps that may have inappropriate content.
- Manage the content different family members can see.

How to set parental controls

Scan the QCR code below using the camera on your phone to find instructions on how to set up parental controls:

- **Home broadband and WiFi**
- **Game consoles**
- **Mobiles, tablets and computers**
- **Apps and online services**
- **Search engines**
- **Internet safety away from the home**



Need advice about online safety?

If you're stuck, not sure what to do, or if you're worried about your child, you can also contact our NSPCC who provide trained helpline counsellors on **0808 800 5000**.

Childline also has lots of information about **online and mobile safety** that will help you and your child. the QCR code below for more information.



Top Tips

- Talk to your child. Explain why you are setting parental controls; to keep them safe. But also let them know that they can talk to you to discuss why certain settings are in place.
- Set good, strong passwords where you are able. On some parental controls you can set a password which prevents settings and features from being changed.
- Age is a significant factor; as children get older, restrictions and controls you use will change, but only at a pace that is appropriate for your child, not pressure from your child "because everyone else is allowed".
- Content filters are never 100% effective, it is likely at some point your child will see inappropriate or upsetting content and it is important that you are able to talk to them about this.

Next time

- **How to talk to your child about internet safety**
- **Top tips on what to say**
- **Child friendly internet safety activities**

Miss Bourne Computing Lead