Safeguarding Snapshot
Safer Internet Day - 7th February 2024

On 7th February we are supporting 'Safer Internet Day'. The theme for this year is 'making space for conversations about children's life online'.

Please see below a few tips and resources that you may find useful for today, and every day:

1. **Start early**
   Ideally, start talking to your child about online safety as soon as they are accessing internet enabled devices - it's never too early! This will normalise such conversations as well as reinforce important messages.

2. **Be open and interested**
   Ask your child to show and tell you what they do online. What apps, games and sites do they access? How do they use these e.g. do they speak/interact with others? Appreciate the opportunities and benefits, as well as help your child to understand any risks. This will create a positive and open climate so that your child is more likely to talk to you if something goes wrong. If you want to understand more about an app or game, then have a look here.

3. **Make it regular**
   Create regular opportunities for conversation so that you keep up to date with your child's online activity. It doesn't matter how you do this, and it shouldn't be formal. Perhaps during a short car journey or on a walk. Or for younger children how about using an online themed story to provoke conversation e.g. Goldilocks or The Online Zoo?

4. **Be a good role model**
   Remember that your child will see you using devices and so it's important that we try to practise what we preach! Consider using the Family Agreement as a great way of opening up a conversation about this.

5. **Seek help**
   If during a conversation your child tells you something of concern, stay calm and reassure them. Speak to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for advice or see here for other support.

Further Information

- [ParentSafe](#)
- [Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides - Internet Matters](#)
- [Parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)