

Supporting young people online

Information and advice for parents and carers



We tell our children to share but online it's different. In fact, sometimes sharing online can be dangerous. Having open, regular conversations with your child will enable you to really understand and explore the online world together, helping you to keep them safe online.



• Explore sites and apps together.



- Talk about what might be OK for children of different ages. Ask your child what sites or apps they like. Write a list, and look at them together.
- Be positive about what you see, but also be open about concerns you have: "I think this site's really good" or "I'm a little worried about things I've seen here".
- Talk to your child about what you think is appropriate – but also involve them in the conversation. Ask what they think is OK for children of different ages – they'll feel involved in the decision-making.
- Be aware that your child might talk about friends who use apps or visit sites that you've decided aren't suitable. Be ready to discuss your reasons, but recognise that they may not agree with you. Listen carefully for the reasons why.

It is important for children to realise that new friends made online may not be who they say they are and that once a friend is added to an online account, you may be sharing your personal information with them. Privacy settings online may also allow you to customise the information that each friend is able to access. If you have concerns that your child is, or has been, the subject of inappropriate sexual contact or approach by another person, it's vital that you report it.

You can always call the NSPCC online safety helpline on 0808 8005002 to get advice on anything from the latest social networks to parental controls. Alternatively, please contact the school directly on 020 7924 8310 or e:mail info@sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk

Further information can be found on the school's website: www.sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk



Nearly all other social media services require users to be at least 13 years of age to access and use their services. This includes Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, Musical.ly and Skype. Whilst there is no age restriction for watching videos on YouTube, users need to be 13 or older to have their own YouTube account (enabling them to subscribe to other channels, like videos, post comments, share their own content and flag inappropriate content).