

Internet Safety Advice for Parents and Carers

Internet safety is very important to everyone at Mrs Bland's.

The internet is a fantastic resource for children to find information, be sociable and enjoy entertainment. It is also largely unregulated and is used by some people who have less than positive intentions. There are some very good websites which will assist you in your efforts to keep your children safe online. Here are some links for you to follow if you choose (they are independent sites recommended to us – we don't claim any responsibility for them):

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/>

<http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

<http://www.childnet.com/>

We recognise that the internet plays an important part in our lives but it needs to be respected and children and parents taught how to keep safe online.

At Mrs Bland's the children design their own posters in KS1 about E-Safety to go around the computers in the classroom. We use songs to help us remember how to keep safe online and take part every year in Internet Safety day.

All our pupils are taught about responsible and acceptable use of our school network.

As part of your child's curriculum, and the development of ICT skills, Mrs Bland's Infant School provides supervised access to the Internet.

We believe that the use of the Internet and e-mail is worthwhile and is an essential skill for children as they grow up in the modern world. Simple sensible rules are followed.

Our internet connections are filtered to block inappropriate material, at home your child may not be protected in this way, so it is really important that you monitor their internet use at all times.

Using the internet safely at home

Whilst many internet providers offer filtering systems to help you safeguard your child at home, it remains very easy for children to access inappropriate material.

Parents are advised to set security levels within Internet Explorer or other browsers with this in mind. Locating the computer in a family area where possible, not in a bedroom, will enable you to supervise your child/children as they use the internet.

Please also consider any other device that can access the internet, for example mobile phones, games consoles, tablets etc.

Simple rules for keeping your child safe To keep your child/children safe, they should:

- Ask permission before using the internet and discuss what websites they are using
- Only use websites you have chosen together or use a child friendly search engine
- Only email people they know (consider setting up an address book)
- Ask permission before opening an email sent by someone they don't know
- Not use their real name when using games or websites on the internet (create a nickname)
- Never give out personal information about themselves, friends or family online, including home address, phone or mobile number
- Never arrange to meet someone they have 'met' on the internet and inform an adult
- Never tell someone they don't know where they go to school or post pictures of themselves in school uniform
- Only use a webcam with people they know
- Tell you immediately if they see anything they are unhappy with.
- Ask for permission when taking someone's photo and respect their wishes.