



Nightingale Primary School

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11 January 2022

Keeping Safe Online

Dear Parents/Carers

Over the holidays, many of our children have received new devices, such as tablets, mobile phones, game consoles and laptops. This could well mean they now have more access to the internet and social networking than they have had previously.

One of the biggest risks to children, when navigating the world, be that in real life, or online, is a lack of awareness of the risks. It is our job, as teachers and parents, to educate our children about those risks.

Following discussions with your children, we are aware that many of them are using apps such as Instagram, Snapchat and WhatsApp, as well as having accounts on TikTok.

The age recommendations for these are,

Instagram 13+

Snapchat 13+

TikTok 13+

WhatsApp 16+

Whilst these apps may seem like good fun and your child may be pestering you to allow them to use them, they are not without risk. There is a reason why they are intended for ages 13 (or 16) and up. Therefore, if your child is using them, it is VITAL that you as the parent know what those risks are.

Please do have a look on our school website, under the safeguarding section where we have compiled a number of useful links. For example, on the Parent Info link, there are some really useful guides for parents around the above apps, and other games that children like to use that will help you to identify the risks.

[Safeguarding | Nightingale Primary School](#)

We would also urge you to talk with your child about the importance of asking for, and receiving permission from friends and family, before sharing images and adding people into group chats.

Equally, please ensure that your child is aware that for young people under the age of 16, parental consent is needed to use an image, therefore they should not be posting photographs or videos of their friends online without consent from their parents.

In school, our children learn about these issues as well as how to be good friends, deep thinkers and morally responsible citizens who are informed to make positive contributions to their community. As parents and professionals this positive contribution is what we want for all of our children and having these meaningful conversations with your child will support this.

Your sincerely

Mrs Hannah Beckett
Headteacher

Hayley Sharp
Welfare Leader & DDSL