Dear Parents/Carers                                                                    7th May 2020

During school closures due to the Covid-19 outbreak, more children and young people are spending extended periods of time online and using devices. It is vital that children and young people are kept safe when online at all times. Please take time to sit with your child and monitor their online activity closely.

**WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE TO DO, DON'T DO NOTHING.**

Some parents/Carers find out too late that young people have been accessing inappropriate content and/or platforms. Most devices have built-in controls which can be activated, or you can sync your child's phone to your phone so that you can see which apps have been downloaded;

• Google Family Link is a free android app for under 13s, which can be controlled by the parent's iPhone or Android phone.

• iPhone's iOS 12 offers controls at the operating system level.

• Net-aware.org.uk lets you check out any app before its downloaded and you can see independent reviews of the risks of any app.

There are lots of other options available online. Some of these options include:

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| Qustodio | Free of ££ | Free version or premium plans available from £36 p.a. but no monthly payment option available. Daily reports about phone and laptop use, consoles not covered. Location tracker included. Blocker for certain apps. Requires setting up on each device separately. Good reviews on comparison sites. |
| Net Nanny | ££ | Includes internet filter, scheduled access, activity alerts and reports but does not cover apps. Requires setting up on each device separately. |
| OurPact | ££ | Tracks calls, texts, social media use. High degree of parental control, including scheduling access to certain apps at certain times of day. Requires setting up on each device separately. Doesn't cover consoles or laptops. |
| Kaspersky Safe Kids | Free or ££ | Web monitoring, time limits, app management. Laptops also covered but not consoles. Good value option. |
| Norton Family Premier | ££ | Web filters, location tracking, time scheduling and monitoring for unlimited android and Windows devices. |

Please ensure that safety settings and passwords on mobile devices, apps, PC's, laptops, tablets and consoles are turned on at all times. Internet Matters website has many resources to support you with this.

https://www.internetmatters.org/

https://coronavirus.lgfl.net/safeguarding

https://www.childnet.com/blog/keeping-children-happy-and-safe-online-during-covid-19

https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/

Kind Regards,

William Humphrey
Teacher