Parayhouse School

Online Safety Newsletter: March/April 2022

Mobile Phones

Is your child about to get their first phone?

EE have launched Phone Smart Licence, which is a course to help prepare children for their new phone by teaching them how to stay safe and be kind online.

Phone Smart is free and available to everyone, not just EE customers.
Your child will have to complete 5 sections and as they complete each episode, they will be rewarded with a sticker.

Once they have collected all 5, they will be given their Phone Smart Licence.

The site also includes several useful articles to support you, for example what to do when buying their phone, information about parental controls and where to go for further advice.

Follow the link below to access: https://eephonesmart.co.uk

Tablets/Smart phones

As well as setting up parental controls on the device itself, remember to check any apps your child would like on their device, is it suitable for their age and review all settings and privacy options for each one.
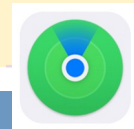
For the devices, use the available settings to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings.

Follow the links below to find out more:
Phones/iPads: https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304
Google Play: https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738

Further information, tips and advice on setting up parental controls: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/onlinesafety/parental-controls/

Find my phone

Did you know that you can set up location settings on your phone (and for your child) so you can share your location and find out where they are? Talk to your child about why you are setting this up and when and why you will check their location. Find out more using the links below.

Apple: https://www.apple.com/uk/icloud/findmy/ or use this link if you have Family Sharing set up: https://support.apple.com/engb/HT201087

Android: https://support.google.com/android/an swer/3265955#zippy=%2Cstep-checkthat-find-my-device-is-on or use this link if you have Family Link set up: https://support.google.com/families/an swer/7103413?hl=en

Snapchat

What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is an app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. You must be 13+ to sign up. Users can send messages (snaps) to others that can only be seen for a set time period e.g. 10 seconds. Users can also upload snaps to stories which then disappear after 24 hours.

What should I be aware of?

- **Who is your child friends with?** Talk to your child about who their 'friends' online are.

- **Group chats** - in a group chat there may be people that they're not friends with on the app who can then communicate with them in the group. This also increases their risk of interacting with strangers.

- **Snap Map -** The map lets users see where 'friends' are. Location sharing via the map is optional and is off by default (we recommend that it remains off).

- **Snapchat streaks** - Streaks count how many consecutive days two people have been sending Snaps to each other, this can increase pressure to respond daily. • Inappropriate content – due to the nature of the app your child may come across content that is inappropriate.

- **Screenshots** – whilst Snaps disappear, users may take screenshots before they do, potentially resulting in them losing control of what they have shared as it could be sent to other people.

- **Bullying** – there is a risk of bullying on all platforms so please ensure your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary.

https://snap.com/safety/safety-reporting/ o https://support.snapchat.com/en-GB/a/remove-blockfriends

Safety tips

It is important to talk to your child regularly about what they are doing online and make sure that they know that they should always talk to you or another trusted adult if they have any concerns. **Please make sure the appropriate privacy settings are set up and your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary**.

We would recommend you explore Snapchat with your child and suggest why certain options are safer, for example, setting your account so only friends (rather than everyone) can see your content and only those you are friends with can contact you.

https://support.snapchat.com/en-GB/article/privacy-settings2

Don't forget to talk to your child about being kind online, for example only posting positive comments, don't say anything they wouldn't say in real life and treat others as they would expect to be treated.
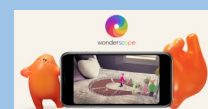
Apps for learning and having fun!

White Rose

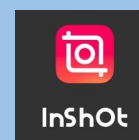1-Minute Maths and focuses on adding, subtracting and subsidising.

Scratch Jnr

Children (ages 5-7) can learn important coding skills as they program their own interactive stories and games.

Wonderscope

Books come to life on your floor and you can play a part in the story! Wonderscope uses augmented reality to transform ordinary spaces into extraordinary stories. 1 st book free but then in-app purchases.

InShot -

Video Editor Great for creating your own movies! Free but does have in-app purchases available.