

Online Safety at Hartley Primary

Dangers:

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children statistics from March 2014 reported :

- 4% of UK 9-16 year olds have gone to an offline meeting with someone they first met online
- 11% of 9-16 year olds have encountered sexual images on the internet in the past 12 months
- 13% of UK 9-16 year olds say they have been bothered or upset by something online in the past year.
- 60% of 13-18 year olds said they had been asked for a sexual image or video of themselves (*ChildLine survey - it is illegal and a serious criminal offence to take, hold or share "indecent" photos of anyone aged under 18*)
- The number of counselling sessions ChildLine held about cyber bullying increased by 87% in 2012/13 compared with the previous year.

A recent report from Ofcom found that in the UK, a third of 3 to 4 year olds go online “using a desktop PC, laptop or netbook and 6% who are going online [do so] via a tablet computer and 3% via a mobile phone. In addition to this, 87% of 5-7 year olds are known to use the internet — a rise from 68% in 2007.” (Ofcom, 2012). We can reasonably assume that some of this access has been unsupervised, which increases the risk of young children seeing and being upset by inappropriate material. **It is vital, therefore, that parents/guardians know how their child is using the internet.**

Safety:

At Hartley we take a number of steps to ensure children know how to be safe online at school and at home. In Key Stage 1 teachers discuss with their class the need to tell an adult if something they encounter online has upset or troubled them in some way. In KS2 children follow a set of E-safety activities to develop their ability to stay safe online. These cover topics such as Keeping personal information private, Passwords, Malware, Viruses and Trojans, Reliability of sites, copyright, etc. They attend assemblies which deal with E-safety and teachers plan appropriate opportunities to discuss E-safety when possible in other areas of the curriculum.

Protection:

The school does have a filtering system provided by the London Grid for Learning to block access to offensive materials although this can never be 100% effective. Since this is the case, we promote a no-blame approach to the appearance on screens of inappropriate material – in practice this means asking children to be mature and responsible enough to inform their teacher should any such material appear unexpectedly on a tablet or laptop. Action can then be taken to block access to these sites. In school, publishing of pupil work happens within a secure environment (LGfL) and pupils and staff sign an Acceptable Use Policy agreement.

In the home, the majority of broadband providers offer parental control software (usually free) to protect children as far as possible from inappropriate material. It is also possible to buy commercial software to do the same thing.

Advice:

Our Computing Co-ordinator is usually available on parental Open Days/Evenings to discuss any concerns you may have about e-safety and to offer advice. Members of our Leadership Group are also on hand to help address these.

There are a number of excellent websites which will also offer further practical advice. Click on any of these links to find out more... [Kidsmart](#), [Childnet](#), [Think You Know](#), [UK Safer Internet Centre](#), [NSPCC](#)

Not sure about [FaceBook](#) , [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#)? What are they? What do they do? Click on each one to see a parent guide.

General Guidance in other languages is also available – click on the desired language:

[Arabic](#)

[Bengali](#)

[Polish](#)

[Punjabi](#)

[Somali](#)

[Spanish](#)

[Urdu](#)