

Dear parents and carers,

With more children accessing the internet than ever before and in particular social media sites, we would like to remind parents and carers of the importance of keeping your children safe online.

Tik Tok, YOUTUBE, Instagram, SNAPCHAT and Twitter are currently the sites most viewed by children and young people in the UK. Used safely, these sites can be fun and informative, however, as with any social media sites there are potential safety concerns.

WhatsApp has become the most widely used platform for children staying in touch and communicating with each other, and we are aware of classes having multiple "WhatsApp" groups set up by children.

As with any online activities, we would encourage parents/ carers to be mindful of their children's safety. Incidents such as, online bullying, inappropriate comments and images, befriending by strangers, adult content or upsetting images being shared and sent to children are all too common. Whilst school is able to provide ongoing support and education around internet safety, we would expect parents to be equally vigilant in offering support and guidance to your children when using the internet in order to help keep them safe.

The Safeguarding team, Techers and TA'S, are always happy to offer support and guidance to families around any internet safety concerns or worries, in addition to this there are plenty of useful resources and help available on line:

- **NSPCC:** www.nspcc.org.uk
- **CHILDLINE:** www.childline.org.uk
- **CEOPS:** www.ceop.police.uk

If you would like to speak to our staff about the safety of a child, please contact reception to book an appointment with a member of our Safeguarding team.

St Gabriel's Primary School: 01392 255555

admin.stgabriels@acexcellence.co.uk

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility