



Rosslyn Park Primary & Nursery School

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Dear Parents/Carers

E-safety information for parents/carers

E-safety is an important factor in keeping children safe at Rosslyn Park Primary and Nursery School. We have extensive security measures in place in school to help safeguard pupils from potential dangers or unsuitable material. Any e-safety incidents are recorded and managed in accordance with our Safeguarding Policy. E-safety is taught to all pupils explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online.

We can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with you to ensure the e-safety message is consistent. Your help is needed to talk to your children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online. We have had a number of parents express concerns about children's behaviour online where children can accidentally or deliberately be exposed to unwanted or unpleasant comments.

E-safety is a crucial lesson for children, as being exposed to inappropriate material can be emotionally damaging. Even more concerning, however, is the risk to children of sexual harm which is heightened from the amount of social media apps that children can now access including Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, You Tube, Musica.ly, Live.ly and many more.

There is a very sad case that has been in the headlines recently 'Kayleigh's Love Story'. This resulted in a child death after Kayleigh met a stranger online and was groomed into meeting him. Kayleigh's Love Story is a warning to young people, both girls and boys, about the dangers of speaking to people they don't know online. The film highlights just how quick and easy it can be for children to be groomed online without them or those around them knowing it is happening. Its purpose is to protect children now and in the future and to stop another family losing a child in this way. For further information, useful resources and to watch the film go to:

<https://leics.police.uk/categories/kayleighs-love-story-film>

Musica.ly and Live.ly are also a cause for concern and appear to be fairly recent sites that children can access. Rosslyn Park Primary and Nursery School would urge all parents to prevent their children accessing this app. Whilst the app is only supposed to access contacts on the user's phone, it appears that quite quickly, friends of friends of friends are able to join the group-chat whom your child does not know at all. It is therefore an unsafe app for children to use. There is a story in the News (January 2017) where a man has managed to perform a sexual act during a live stream in front of children: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4156532/Parents-warned-live-streaming-app-live-ly.html>

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There are steps that you can take at home to minimise risks to your children.

What can parents/carers do? Follow the Golden Rules!

Ground Rules

- Discuss as a family how the internet will be used in your house. Consider what should be kept private online (personal information, photos etc.) and decide rules for making and meeting online friends. Make sure you know what your child is doing online, much like you would do offline.

Online Safety

- Install antivirus software, secure your internet connection and use Parental Control functions for computers, mobile phones and game consoles to block unsuitable content or contact.
- Remember that parental control tools are not always 100% effective and sometimes unsuitable content can get past them, so don't rely on them alone to protect your child.

Location

- Locate your computer in a supervised family area. Always supervise the use of webcams and applications which allow voice or video chat. Consider your child's use of other devices that allow internet access such as mobile phones and games consoles.

Dialogue

- Talk to your child and ask them to show or even teach you how they use the internet, learn which websites or tools they like to use and why. Learning together can often open opportunities to discuss safe behaviour with your child.
- Always ensure your child knows how to block or report people online who send nasty or inappropriate messages or content. Encourage your child not to retaliate or reply.
- Make sure your child knows to tell an adult they trust if they see something online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable.
- It's essential to be realistic – banning the internet or technology will not work and it often makes a child less likely to report a problem. Education around safe use is essential.

Websites for more information:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk – Visit the "Parent/Carer" section and use the "Click CEOP" button to seek advice and report online abuse. There are also children's apps and games around e-safety.

www.childnet.com – Visit the 'Know it All' section for an interactive guide about online safety.

www.getsafeonline.org – Free up-to-date security advice.

<http://clickcleversafe.direct.gov.uk> – Click Clever Click Safe campaign.

www.bbc.co.uk/onlinesafety - Useful support and up to date issues around e-safety.

www.cybermentors.org.uk – Online support for children.

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