



Online Safety: Parent and Carer Newsletter Spring 2021

The way we have all been working and learning has changed and change has had to happen very fast- to make sure we are all able to learn and work in Covid times. Technology is so valuable for education, as well as a way to keep in touch with friends and family. With more Internet and online activity it's important we all consider how we can help keep young people safer online. We have provided some links and information which we hope you will find helpful.

Online gaming

Online games are social activities, and most have features that allow young people to chat with others whilst they play.

For information about the positives of gaming, the risks of 'in-game chat' and measures you can take to help protect your child, watch this short video:

[In-game chat: a guide for parents and carers](#) .

Sharing images and videos

Young people often share images or 'selfies' and there is potential for some of those to be inappropriate. Young people share these for a number of different reasons, and some situations are more risky than others.

For information about the sharing of images and how best to respond, take a look at [selfies: a parents guide](#).

World Internet Safety Day 2021

February 9th saw Hillcrest take part in World Internet Safety Day. Students took part in lots of activities to help them develop the skills to keep themselves and others safe online. The highlight of the day was our Internet Safety Epic Quiz. Congratulations to Class LF and Class MS who were our winners!

Steps you can take to help keep your child safer online

Have an ongoing conversation: Continue to talk about the apps, games and sites they like to use, and what they like and don't like and any concerns about being online. Discuss with them when to unfollow, block or report. For help starting this conversation, read [having a conversation with your child](#).

Make sure they know where to go for support: Remind your child they can always speak to you or an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried or upset. Remind them that they won't be in trouble at that you are there to help. For a breakdown of report services, visit: [Supporting your child with reporting unwanted content online](#)

Do contact us if you would like any further information- Stay Safe!