



SAFEGUARDING AT ST ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to the first edition of this year's newsletters from the St Elizabeth's Safeguarding Team. Safeguarding and protecting children is such an important issue for our children that we have decided to have a termly newsletter to share key information and advice with parents and carers. This will enable us all to work together with the same aim of keeping children safe in school, at home and in the wider community. This first issue will be concentrating on giving you the latest on-line/social media updates.

Social Media is Changing: Your Guide to the Latest Updates

From TikTok to Instagram, Google to YouTube, many of the online platforms we use every day have released plans to improve the safety of users under 18. But will these changes improve the safety of children and young people online? Online safety experts have reviewed the biggest changes coming to these platforms, helping you to stay on top of your own online safety as well as the online protection of your children. Please see the link below for the guide to latest updates.

[Social Media Platform Updates: Your Guide to the Latest Changes](#)

Click [here](#) for an update on Instagram's latest changes

Steps you can take to help keep your child safe online

Many of our children at school tell us that they communicate with their friends online using phones, iPads or games consoles. The following guidance will help you keep your child safe online.

- Have an ongoing conversation with your child. Continue to talk about the apps, games and sites they like to use, 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 your child knows where to go for support: Remind your child they can always speak to you or a trusted adult if anything happens online that makes them feel worried or upset. Remind them that they won't be in trouble and that you are there to help. Click below for more information about how to report concerns about social media or online content
[Supporting your child with reporting unwanted content online](#)
- Make sure you know who your child is communicating with online. Our children at school tell us that they as well as on phones, they often send messages through games consoles. Check regularly who your children are communicating with and set parental controls to prevent them being contacted by strangers. Make sure that your child uses devices in a supervised space in your home rather than alone in their bedrooms.
- For more general online safety information visit:
<https://www.o2.co.uk/help/online-safety#>

Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary about Safeguarding

DSL: Designated Safeguarding Lead

PREVENT: Part of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

SPA: Single Point of Access, a multi-agency team, managed by the Local Authority who work closely with a wide range of teams and partner agencies and facilitates different levels of support depending on the needs of children and families.

LADO: Local Authority Designated Officer who deals with 'position of trust' safeguarding issues

DBS: Disclosure & Barring Service used to make safe recruitment decisions and authorise certification

Who's who at St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School?

Miss Thomas: Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Hines: Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Paul Webb: Designated School Governor for Safeguarding and Child Protection

Please speak to any of the Safeguarding team if you have any concerns.

More information

Thinkuknow is the education programme from the National Crime Agency's Child Protection Command CEOP (NCA-CEOP).

Their aim is to protect children and young people from sexual abuse online. For more information, advice and guidance, visit their [parents website](#)



Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

Age Group	Platforms
Under 13	Roblox, PopJam, FaceTime
13+	Twitter, Facebook and Messenger, Viber, WeChat, Monkey, Yubo, Dubsmash, Instagram, TikTok, Skype, Google Hangouts, Reddit, Snapchat, Pinterest
16+	WhatsApp, Telegram Messenger, Tumblr
17+	Line, Sarahah, Tellonym

Sourced from NSPCC website October 2019

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please see:

School Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Miss Samantha Thomas



School Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Mrs Jane Hines



You can also contact the Richmond Single Point of Access (SPA) with any concerns
0208 547 5008: office hours.

0208 770 5000: out of hours Duty Team (evenings and weekends)

In an emergency, if you think a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999.