Online Safety Policy 2024-25
Learner Friendly

This policy was created by our Designated Safeguarding Lead and our Future Leader Representatives. The discussions supported developing the Online Safety Top 10 at Wallscourt Farm. It links closely to the whole school **Online Safety Policy** as well as our **Internet Safety Guide and Home School Agreement** which can be found on our website.

What do we like about the internet and how do we use it?
The internet has so much choice and you can do lots of fun things online. This could be playing games on your games device or tablet, being entertained, contacting friends or researching more about things you like.

What is online safety and is it important?
Online safety is all about our right to be safe when you are online. It is really important because it helps to keep us away from danger online. We need to remember to keep our personal information to ourselves, only play with people we know and use kind words to everyone just like we do in person.

1 Who should we ask if we want to use our devices online?

At home, the adults decide when and how we use our devices. This could be decided once and then families know forever or it could be that we have to check each time. The adults at home should be able to see what we do online.

If we are in school, we should be checking with the adults in our Learning Zones before we use devices or the internet.

2 Do we have Rights and Responsibilities online?

We have the same rights and responsibilities online as we do in real life. We want to make everyone feel welcome online so we should treat them the same as we would if they were in front of us. If you're mean online, you could get reported and blocked. You would also feel guilty because you know you're doing or saying something that's not right. It's ok to express yourself online but you must always think about what you're saying so that it's respectful.

3 Why should we talk to our family about the apps and websites we use?

Adults need to know so that they can check if what we might see is ok for us. They always need to know if you see something inappropriate because it could affect how we're feeling or even our mental health. It might be that we think about it for a long time and worry then have bad dreams about it.

4 What should I do if I feel threatened or worried by anyone online?

It's really important we tell adults at home and in school what has happened, even if we made poor choices too. It can be any adult in school or at home because they all want to keep us safe. We can also use things like block and reporting on apps and games.

5 Does it matter how long you stay on your devices for?

Staying on your devices for the whole day or evening can impact your mental health. It can impact your sleep and means it is hard to get up in the morning so you could be late. You will miss out on life and spending time with your family and friends in real life. There should be a balance of using your devices and enjoying the things and people around you.

6. What is personal information and can I share it online?

Your personal information is information that helps a stranger know who you are such as your address, the school you attend and also things like your passwords. This should be kept private as it helps to keep you safe.

7. Does it matter if our school uniform is in pictures online?

To keep yourself safe, you should not wear your uniform in pictures or videos online. This is part of your personal information so should be kept private. Your family should also keep photos of you in uniform private too. Sometimes families post pictures of the first day of school and they should blur the school logo to help keep you safe.

8. Is everything we see online factual?

There is 'fake news' online so you need to check from more than one place that what you're reading is true and a real fact. You can check other websites and use websites that are well known too. You also need to remember this when you're talking with your friends too.

9. Do age restrictions really matter?

Age restrictions are there for a reason and we should have a family decision to know if we can or cannot go on something. Sometimes, games and apps have different access or levels for certain ages. Whatever we are using or playing, adults should know about and agree that they feel it's safe for us to use.

10. Can I use social media in Primary school?

There are lots of social media apps which have different age restrictions. All the age restrictions are older than any learners at Wallscourt Farm. We should talk to our families before trying to use them to understand the age restrictions.

13+ facebook   16+ WhatsApp   13+ Instagram   13+ ROBLOX

13+ YouTube   13+ snapchat   13+ TikTok   12+ FORTNITE