

Union Road, Romford, RM7 0HG School contact number: 01708 932710 School email: info@concordiaacademy.co.uk

Tuesday, 26 February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

At Concordia Academy we take the safety of all our pupils very seriously and this includes their safety online. We have a number of procedures in place at school to keep our pupils safe when using the internet and we know that you would like this to extend to their home online environment too. We also know that it can be extremely difficult to navigate the various parental advice websites and keep up to date with the latest trends such as Fortnite, Tik Tok, Roblox and Adopt Me to name but a few.

E-safety is an integral part of children's education in today's digital world and is embedded in their learning at school. We also want to help our parents and children improve their own understanding of e-safety issues so they can learn to use the internet and all digital media in a safe and secure way.

Internet Safety Resources

There is a great new online safety tool designed for parents launched by the Department for Education called **Parent Info**. It has advice on everything from keeping children safe from online trolls to WhatsApp - a guide for parents.

At Home

As a parent, you will know how important the internet is to children - they use it to learn, play, socialise and express themselves. It is a highly creative place of amazing opportunities. However, the technology children use every day can seem a bit daunting and you might worry about the risks your child can face online - such as bullying, contact from strangers or the possibility of them seeing illegal or inappropriate content.

You can download a simple checklist <u>here</u> that may help you start to protect your children online and decrease the risks they face. Alternatively, you can engage with your children regarding their use of the internet while at home.

Here are some conversation starter ideas from <u>www.childnet.com</u>

- Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.
- Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?





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- Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use.
- Encourage them to help. Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend who would benefit from their help and support.
- Think about how you use the internet as a family. What could you do to get more out of the internet together and further enjoy your lives online

Parent Resources

To try and help parents with the fast moving and changing world of internet and social media we've suggested a few internet sites below which are fantastic resources. These sites contain information on different types of social media and how to help keep children safe. Childnet also produce a **leaflet for parents** which you can download here

<u>Childnet</u> is a great website resource for parents and children on online safety.

Internet Matters is another great site to use - it has advice on cyberbullying, how to talk to your children about internet safety and quick guides to different types of social media such as Instagram and Snapchat. You can visit their pages here <u>Internet Matters</u>.

Here are quick links to a range of Internet safety sites that you may find useful too:

NSPCC NetAware

<u>Childnet</u>

Internet Matters

CEOP Police

Safer Internet

In school, we have an internet safety code of conduct that all students and staff are expected to adhere to. We have strong and constantly updated filters in place to protect and govern internet use. The most effective way to support our children to develop internet safe skills is to be aware of the dangers ourselves.

Our current Safeguarding Policy including the Acceptable Use of Internet Policy and our E Safety Policy can be found on our school website or available from the school office upon request. You can also find more information on our website E Safety Page http://concordiaacademy.co.uk/e-safety/

Thank you for your continued support.

Raheel Akhtar Headteacher



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