St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Academy

E-Safety

Dear Parents and Carers,

We understand the responsibility to educate our pupils in on-line safety issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom.

At St Margaret Clitherow we believe that internet safety and digital literacy education is a crucial element of the curriculum and an essential part of children's development, both within the school environment and at home.

E-safety is a key part of our Computing curriculum, we recognise the wide range of web-based and mobile learning that is available to our children. The key to promoting effective online safety is through open discussions with the children and through embedded e-safety learning.

As you, our parents are at the forefront of your child's online safety outside the context of school we want this approach to e-safety to spread to the home online environment too and we are therefore sharing with you some tips and resources to help you guide your children and help you keep up to date in a digital world. Here are a few tips to help you keep your children safe on line:

- ➢ Think u know (https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Primary/) is always a good place to start – you will see the report abuse button that your child will know about from school.
- ➢ Another site that is helpful for parent controls is UK Safer Internet Centre (http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/parents-and-carers)

This site advises you to take four steps:

1. Have ongoing conversations with your children about staying safe online

2. Use safety tools on social networks and other online services,

3. Decide when to use parental controls on your home internet

4. Understand devices and the parental control tools they offer in our Parents' Guide to Technology

Digital Parenting is another useful website to look at – http://www.pitda.co.uk/

There are three areas to think about:

WHO your child is talking to,

WHAT they're doing, and

WHERE they're going online

Purple Mash has many suggestions regarding online safety.

There is more useful information on the school website.