



E- SAFETY PARENT WORKSHOP

18.11.24

Welcome

Why is this important?

Online Safety is an important part of keeping children safe here at Damson Wood. We have extensive security measures in place in school, which are monitored both internally and externally, to help safeguard pupils from potential dangers or unsuitable material. Online safety is taught to all pupils explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online.

We can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with parents to ensure the e-Safety message is consistent. It is important that parents speak to their children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online and that there is an 'open' policy when discussing online safety with children at home.

It's essential to be realistic - banning the internet or technology will not work and it often makes a child less likely to report a problem. Education around safe use is essential.

If you have any concerns around your child's online safety and want to discuss them or ask for advice, please contact any of the school's Safeguarding Leads; Ms Stevens (DSL) or Miss Hull (Deputy DSL).

Alternatively, you can access support through the NSPCC helpline, Childline or report concerns on <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>



Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire

In July of this year, we received results from our HRBQ. In this, children had to answer questions about topics, such as after school activities, online activities, what they worry about and when they last visited a dentist.



Results

After school activities (no. of children)	
Play computer games after school	32%
Play sport	32%
Watch TV or watch videos online	63%
Use a tablet/laptop/mobile	63%
Attend an after-school club	63%

Online Safety- Results

Percentage of children	
Go online when parents are not in the room	26%
Parents who have rules about being online	55%
Parents are interested in online activity	45%
Chat to people they've never met	16%
Haven't been told how to stay safe when chatting online	42%



Fortnite

- Aged 12+
- Open chat feature that could expose younger players to offensive language or mature content from random strangers.
- Common Sense recommends Fortnite for teens 13 and up, primarily because of the action violence. But with the [right controls](#) and parental guidance, this can be a preteen-friendly alternative to violent first-person shooters.
- Adults can restrict some features on their child's account. You can manage permissions for friend requests, voice and text chat, content ratings, and filters for mature language. Parents and caregivers can also set up passwords for in-game spending. When you enable this option, the Parental Control PIN will be required for all purchases. Accounts for users under 18 also have privacy settings turned on by default. [Use this guide](#) to set up parental controls on your child's account.
- There is an additional restriction for kids under 13. Children below that age are automatically assigned a "[cabined account](#)," where parents and caregivers have to consent to their child getting access to certain features. These include in-game purchases and chatting. Keep in mind that the game determines a user's age based on the date of birth they enter when setting up an account.

Minecraft

The background of the slide is a screenshot from the game Minecraft. It shows a player character with brown hair and a blue shirt in the center. To the left is a large, pink, pixelated tree. In the foreground, there's a sheep. The scene is set in a typical Minecraft landscape with green grass, brown dirt, and a blue sky.

- Ages 10+
- Minecraft can be played very safely.

In single-player Creative mode on the Peaceful setting, for example, there is no interaction with others and no conflict.

Most children want to play with others and multiplayer gaming poses some risks. Though Minecraft communities are generally welcoming and server moderators are responsible for keeping things orderly, children can get exposed to strong language, bullying, and even hate speech.

Minecraft isn't immune from predators, either. Since fans of the game range in age all the way up to adult, the player-created environments can contain bloody (but not gory) battles, sexual scenarios and other mature content. If you want to allow your child to play multiplayer while reducing the possibility of exposure to age-inappropriate language, content and interactions, the best way is for them to join a "realm," an invitation-only personal Minecraft server for up to 10 players created by someone they know. Otherwise, create your own server to monitor who gets to play with your children. You could also find an established server with very good moderators, such as one of these vetted Minecraft servers or one just for children.



YouTube

- May not be age-appropriate for your child
- Plenty of inappropriate content can surface by typing in the most innocent of search terms
- Comments below video often contain inappropriate language



What are we doing at Damson Wood?

- We teach online safety through Purple Mash. For example, Year 2 children have been learning about their 'digital footprint' and about the potential risks of sharing online.
- We use 'Smoothwall' monitoring and filtering is managed by the LA.
- Children have their own log ins and know that these are not to be shared with anyone else.
- Children are taught that if they see something online that causes them distress and/or upset to report it to an adult straight away.
- Children are taught to report anything that 'pops up' straight away to an adult.
- We participate in Safer Internet Day (11th February 2025) based around a specific theme e.g. Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others online
- Children are supervised and monitored **AT ALL TIMES** when using devices.

How you can support at home...

- Show an interest in what your child is doing online. Spend some time together online.
- Ask your child to demonstrate an app to you or to challenge them to an online game. Once you have a good understanding, you can then find more out about the apps, sites and games your child is using and make sure they are appropriate and safe.
- Ensure that you are present when children are online and that you are aware of the content of what they are accessing.
- The NSPCC website has key information and useful support for parents who want to get a conversation started with their child about online safety or are worried
- Reinforce online safety rules at home.
- You may wish to consider setting a time limit on devices.
- It is not possible to call any search engine on the internet 100% safe. However please find a list below of those which are, in our opinion, the 'safer' ones:
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc>
- <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/damson#/>

Other sources...

- <https://www.common sense media.org/game-reviews>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/>
- Look at our weekly newsletters for other ways in which to keep your children safe.

An illustration of a family consisting of a father with grey hair, a mother with red hair, and a young girl with black hair. They are positioned behind a large blue shield that contains a white checkmark. The entire scene is set against a dark teal background and enclosed within a white double-line border.

SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>