Internet an Online Safety - information for parents:

Please bear in mind the following:

– It is advisable to keep computers / devices in family rooms rather than in bedrooms so you can keep monitor what your child is doing.

– Make it clear to children in your home that they should <u>never</u> publish personal information about themselves on the Internet as it can be accessible to people they do not know and therefore put them at risk.

– Encourage "*safe search*" options on search engines such as Google and on YouTube. This can help to prevent inappropriate material being seen or accessed by children.

– Avoid file-sharing sites, and avoid downloading and installing software unless you are certain it is trustworthy.

– Installing an up-to-date virus checker can prevent problems – speak to your broadband provider.

Whilst no search engine is 100% safe, we have provided some links to more child-friendly search engines below:

General web browsing and searching	Image searching
Kidrex image search	www.alarms.org/kidrex/
Pics for learning Search	www.pics4learning.com/
Setting Up Google Safe Search	support.google.com safe search guide

Links to online safety and reporting concerns:

CEOP (The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) delivers a multi-agency service dedicated to tackling the abuse and exploitation of children in the real and 'e' world. By clicking on the button, young people and parents can get advice on a range of issues such as viruses, hacking and dealing with bullying online.

The Thinkuknow website links to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) centre.

Kidsmart provides advice on how to stay safe online.

The NSPCC website called NetAware has many no-nonsense guides on social media,

apps and games that children use.

Vodafone have produced a Digital Parenting Magazine, which informs parents about the various technologies children are accessing. There is information on Facebook Settings, Xbox Settings, Jargon Buster and other 'How to Guides'.

Internet Matters is an online eSafety portal designed for parents to access simple, easy and practical advice about online safety for their children, from pre-school to teens. It provides tips on protecting children from online grooming, cyberbullying, privacy and identity theft and inappropriate content. Internet Matters is a not-for profit organisation set up by BT, Sky, TalkTalk and Virgin Media.