

Here are some tips to help you to manage the risk:

- Ensure all parental controls are installed on devices such as mobile phones, tablets, laptops, PCs and gaming consoles.
- If you allow your child access to your phone, ensure parental controls are applied where possible.
- Try to put the computer in a family room where it will be easier for you to supervise your child's online activity.
- Ensure that your child knows they should never give their full name, address and contact details to people they chat to on the internet.
- Explain that some people they talk to on the internet may not be who they say they are.
- Install software that can filter out inappropriate material, including search engines such as Google.
- Impress on your child that they can talk to you if they are worried about something that has happened during their internet use.
- Make it very clear that your child must never arrange to meet someone they have chatted to online without your permission. Their new "friend" might well be a local young person of similar age, but they might not.

You may be alerted to question your child's online activity if they are:

- Spending more and more time on the internet.
- Being secretive – reluctant to talk about their internet activity, closing the screen page when you are close by; spending less time with the family, or giving up previous hobbies and interests, losing interest in their schoolwork, regularly failing to complete homework.
- Starting to talk about "new friends" that you have not met and who do not visit your home.
- Being overly possessive of their mobile phone or computer – perhaps over-reacting if someone picks it up or asks to borrow it.
- Showing fear or discomfort when their phone rings, or quickly turning it off without answering.
- Undergoing a change in personality that you cannot attribute to any obvious cause.

Remember that none of these signs prove that your child is at risk in any way, but if you notice anything that confuses or worries you, try talking things over with them.

Useful Numbers

If you still have concerns you could contact one of the agencies listed below:

National Child Protection Agencies

- NSPCC helpline: 0808 800 5000
<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/>
- Childline: 0800 1111
<http://www.childline.org.uk/>
- Kidscape: 08451 205 204
www.kidscape.org.uk

National Mental Health Agencies

- Young Minds: 0808 802 5544
www.youngminds.org.uk
- Mental Health Foundation: 0207 803 1100
www.mentalhealth.org.uk
- Mind: 0845 766 0163 – www.mind.org.uk

National Internet Safety Agencies

- ChildNet International - www.childnet.com
- Internet Watch Foundation - www.iwf.org.uk
- Think U Know: 0870 000 3344
www.thinuknow.co.uk

School Contact Details

Telephone Number: 01709 828 298

Email: enquiries@sajirotherham.org



Welcome to St Ann's Primary School



Information for Parents and Carers

Our school recognises our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils. We will endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We will be alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and will follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.

September 2021



This leaflet will give you some information about how we meet our safeguarding and child protection responsibilities. We have also included some tips to help you to keep your child safe.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is:
Mr Lee Rowan, Head Teacher

Our Safeguarding and Welfare Officer is:
Mrs Christine Philburn

If you have any questions about this booklet, or if you would like to see our Safeguarding Policy, you can find it online at www.stannsworthham.co.uk alternatively you can contact Mr Rowan or Mrs Philburn on 01709 828298.

Child Abuse and what to look for

Child Abuse is when someone harms a child on purpose. It may be:

- **Physical abuse** – can be when a child is punched, slapped, thrown, bitten, burnt, beaten with a stick. It even includes bullying by other children or adults.
- **Neglect** – when a child is left alone, not given enough to eat, not taken to the doctors etc.
- **Emotional abuse** – when people carry on behaving in a nasty way towards a child, eg. Like being called named or told they're fat or stupid.
- **Sexual abuse** – when someone touches a child's private parts which makes a child feel unhappy, uncomfortable or worried or someone asks a child to touch their private parts, shows them rude pictures, videos or computer games, or has sex with them. someone who lives in the community.

It is every adult's responsibility in school to investigate and subsequently report any concerns and record these on our electronic child protection system – notifying both the **Safeguarding and Welfare Officer** (Mrs Philburn) and the Designated Safeguarding **Lead** (Mr. Rowan)

Some signs to look for are

- Bruises or other injuries.
- A change in behaviour – from quiet to loud, or from 'happy-go-lucky' to withdrawn or isolated.
- Pain or discomfort.
- Fear of a particular person.
- Secrecy around a relationship with a particular person.
- Reluctance to discuss where they go, or who they are with.
- Sexual talk or knowledge beyond their years.
- Being watchful, or always on edge.
- Losing interest in their appearance, hobbies or family life.
- Alcohol or drug taking.
- Having money/expensive gifts such as mobile phone, designer items, etc and refusing to say where they have come from.
- Wetting the bed.
- Becoming 'clingy'.
- A change in internet/electronic device activity.

What we will do if we have a concern about your child

- If we are concerned that your child may be at risk of abuse or neglect we must follow the agreed safeguarding procedures. The procedures have been written to protect all pupils. They comply with our statutory responsibilities and are designed to support pupils, families and staff. The procedures are based on the principle that the welfare of the child is the most important consideration.
- In almost all circumstances, we will talk to you about our concerns and we will also tell you if we feel we must refer our concerns to Children's Social Care. If we think that talking to you first might in some way increase the risk to your child, we will report our concerns to Children's Social Care and take advice from them.
- All child protection records are kept separate from your child's general school file. The only members of staff who have access to the records are those who need to know about the concerns in order to protect and support your child.
- Child protection is a very sensitive issue and it raises many questions and a range of strong emotions. We will do everything we can to support our pupils and you can be assured that any action we take will be in the best interests of your child.



IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE SAFETY OR WELFARE OF YOUR CHILD, OR A CHILD YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD ACT WITHOUT DELAY BY CALLING THE MASH TEAM (Children's Social Care) on 01709 336080.