STAYING SAFE ONLINE AT BIDDENHAM

A warm welcome to all parents and careers. This leaflet has some information on what we do here at Biddenham to keep our students safe online and how you can help at home.

What do we do to promote e-safety?

- We will begin our lessons in September by re-establishing safe internet use.
- We promote E-safety through our ICT policies which can be found on our school homepage.
- All children sign our Acceptable Use Policy
- We provide parent training to support parents at home. These sessions are delivered by various external parties across the year.
- Our Safer Internet Day (February 8th 2022) teaches children about staying safe with technology.
- We discuss E-safety in assemblies throughout the year and address issues as they are raised.
- All reported incidents are investigated and dealt with by our safeguarding team.
- All internet searches are governed by a filtering system that records all internet access and history. Any inappropriate searches are monitored and flagged to our safeguarding team.
- We have an email auditor that logs and filters emails that contain content on grief, self harm, bullying, violence and profanity. These are then addressed by our safeguarding team.
- Misuse of the internet and Chromebook results in students being put on a restricted internet filter which limits their access to websites approved by heads of departments.
- We have a dedicated email address for parents and students to report concerns.
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Upcoming Events

Big National Assembly for Y7 Parents and Students
Google and Parentzone
Friday 24th September, 11.00am
Private link for parents here

The Marie Collins Foundation
Online Workshop 'How can I help my child online?'
Tuesday 5th October 10am-11.30am
Tuesday 18th November 10am - 11.30am
Sign up here

Digital Awareness UK in association with Vodafone
Social Media, Gaming & Keeping Children Safe Online' parent webinar
Monday 18th October 5pm - 6pm
Sign up here

CONCERNS REGARDING ONLINE BEHAVIOUR?

EMAIL PLEASEHELP@ MYBIDDENHAM.COM

What can I do to promote e-safety at home?

- Ensure your child has access to appropriate internet content - for example, Facebook is for children aged 13 and older.
- Visit the E -Safety websites available through our website and below.
- Teach your child strategies to deal with issues and encourage them to be honest and open with you with any concerns they may have.
- Encourage your child to only share their personal information with people they know in real life. Teach them the risks and dangers of sharing information like this.
- Consider where you place your computer, allowing you to keep an eye on content and time spent with technology.
- Consider using filtering software to block unwanted content. In addition to filtering, remember that discussion with your child, and involvement in their internet use, are both effective ways to educate them about the internet.
- If your child is being bullied online, save all available evidence and know where to report the incident, for example to the school, service provider, or the police if the law has been broken. Speak to us if you ever have any concerns or would like any advice.

Other useful links

www.net-aware.org.uk
www.parentalcontrols-on.org
www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
www.thinkuknow.co.uk
www.parentinfo.org
www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keepingchildren-safe/online-safety

Double Click below for some handy parental control guides

Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides

Help to make the internet safer for your child. Use our step by step guides to help put the right parental controls and privacy settings in place.

Your opinion counts. Double Click to fill in the Google form to tell us what you would like support with over the coming year.

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Teacher Talk with Clare Warburton

EACH TERM, WE WILL BE SPEAKING TO A DIFFERENT MEMBER OF STAFF WHO WILL GIVE YOU AN INSIGHT INTO THEIR ROLE AND OPINIONS ON THE ONLINE WORLD

Clare has been at Biddenham for 17 years. She is the Deputy Head in charge of Inclusion and is the schools Safeguarding lead. She is also a teacher of History.

Why have you created another Newsletter?

I feel very strongly that the more information we can share about staying safe in all areas the better. Young people spend a lot of time online, which can have such a positive impact but they must be aware of the risks. During the pandemic, feeling connected has been vital for all of us- keeping in touch with my family in Scotland and being able to see my parents faces has been a lifeline and I know many other people have felt the same. However staying safe and knowing who we are talking to and engaging with is so important. Giving people the tools to understand their online presence is vital. I hope this newsletter goes some way to support that.

What do you love about being online?

Easy answer - shopping!! But it is far too easy and now my husband is working from home he sees the parcels - less easy to hide the deliveries!!

What do you hate about the online world?

"I think that being connected 24/7 is hard. It is hard to know what is real and what isn't. It is all too easy to look at online content and think that everyone is having a fabulous time - I think it's important to realise that what people share is not always the full picture."

What do you hope parents gain from this newlsetter?

The fast moving pace of technology is mind boggling and makes monitoring hard. As a parent myself, I know that there is so much to learn about keeping our children safe and sometimes it is hard to know where to start! I am hoping this newsletter will begin to answer some of these questions. Hopefully you have seen the intouch message and Google form asking for your opinions on what you would like to see in these newsletter and how we can help support you going forward.