

ONLINE SAFETY

Dear Parents,

As part of our R.E., I.C.T, P.S.H.E, and wellbeing programs, we have discussed and explored in great detail the responsibilities that exist when using devices, not only to ourselves but also to others. The use of appropriate language and interactions that are kind, thoughtful and considerate are extremely important and are at the heart of our mission, vision and whole school ethos.

We believe in the values in our Catholic faith – they are the foundation of our school. As such, Jesus' message of love and peace are essential in the way that we conduct ourselves and how we treat others. This is what we aspire to teach the children here at St Mary's.

We ask that parents remind their child/children how their actions on online platforms can be permanently recorded and the important implication of this.

We would therefore ask that you speak with your child regularly about any concerns that they have so that you can support them, if necessary. Through classroom activities, IT lessons on online safety, RE and PHSE lessons and the use of 'MyHappyMind' as well as the 'Crucial Crew' visit in Year 6, the message of telling an adult has been an integral one and so we ask that the use of devices becomes an ongoing conversation between yourselves and your child. We recommend that you regularly discuss the contents of group chats, what your child is watching on Youtube or looking at on Google, so that you can appropriately support and guide them.

Thank you for your support on this matter and if you have anything that you wish to discuss, then please do contact us.

Kind regards,

Janet McKinlay