



Ravenscote Junior School

Online Safety Newsletter

Spring 2024



As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping our students safe in the digital world, we are delighted to introduce our Spring Online Safety Newsletter!

Survey:

Last term, we recently conducted a survey on online safety. The survey was designed to assess our children's understanding of online risks and their ability to navigate the digital world responsibly. Below are the key findings from the survey:

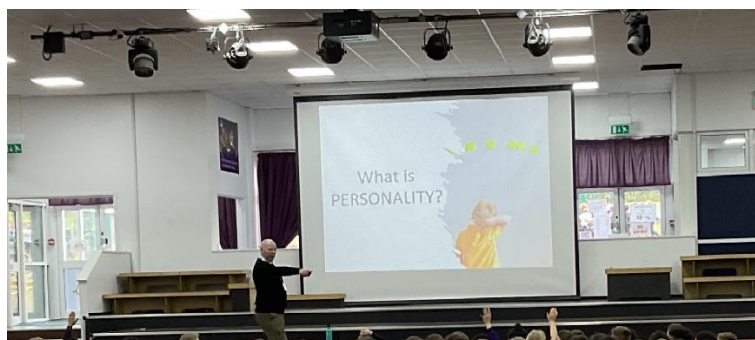
- Nearly 20% of our children spend 6 or more hours online at the weekend.
- Out of 606 responses, 12 children do not go online at all.
- YouTube, TikTok and WhatsApp are the most used social media platforms.
- 40% of our children have their own phones.
- Nearly 20% of children feel that the time spent online negatively effects their sleep.
- 15% of children feel that their parents are not interested in what they do online.
- 20% of children have experienced something nasty online, these include someone being unkind to them, being sent inappropriate content or being contacted by someone they don't know.
- Just under 25% of these experiences were carried out by someone they know.
- 37% of children who had experience something nasty online did not report it.
- 17% of children are not confident keeping themselves safe online (scored 3 or under in the confidence score).
- The majority of children feel that the responsibility for their safety online lies with parents/carers, schools and the government.

During our last parents evening, you may have seen our digital leaders and Year 6 prefects hand out advice from the National College website and guide parents to the recent survey. A massive thank you to our amazing purple people for helping – you were all super stars!



Alan Mackenzie visit - how we can all help keep our children safe online:

Ravenscote was lucky enough to welcome Alan Mackenzie, who spent the day with the children, encouraging them to reflect on their online lives and giving crucial advice on how to keep safe. This included the interesting topic about how we can be very different behind a screen to what we may be like in the real world and how this can impact the way we communicate online.







He then gave an invaluable staff meeting after school for the teachers and Alan then met with parents in the evening. We must thank those parents who came to his presentation. We have included some links below to guides and websites Alan Mackenzie recommended:

This extremely helpful website provides a wealth of guides on our online world, including how to change settings on apps, consoles and more!
www.internetmatters.org

A useful website which includes age ratings and reviews for a wide range of media, including apps and books!
<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

Alan also spoke about the 4C'S – something that the children learn at school but 4 aspects which are great to remember:

Content	Contact	Conduct	Commerce
			
Being exposed to illegal, harmful or inappropriate content e.g. fake news, violence, inappropriate images/messages etc.	Being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users e.g. cyberbullying, exploitation, commercialised advertising etc.	Online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes harm, e.g. making, sending and receiving inappropriate images, cyberbullying etc.	Risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising and scams.

Helpful advice from Alan Mackenzie about YouTube:



Supervised Experience:

With a supervised account, parents can select a content setting that limits the videos that children under the age of 13 can find and access. In order to use the benefits of Supervised Experience, children will need to have a Google Account. Fortunately, Google provide child accounts for children under 13 years of age, ensuring you, as the parents can provide parental consent for what the children are accessing.

Parent Allow Listing:

This is a great service available through YouTube kids. This allows you as parents, the opportunity to adjust the parental controls. You are able to choose channels that children can access. This means you control the channels and videos that the children are watching and you can decide if you feel it is appropriate. This is great if there are channels the children want to watch on YouTube, but are not available on YouTube Kids, if you are happy for them to watch them, you can allow it. It provides you, as parents, greater protection and control on what your children are watching. Like with Supervised Experience, children will need to have a child's Google Account for Parent Allow Listing to work.

Online Safety:

Yesterday was 'Safer Internet Day' across the UK. Every class took part in activities to explore using the internet safely and we built in plenty of time for children to share any concerns they may have, so that we can educate the children to keep them safe online. One of Alan Mackenzie's key messages is to keep the conversation going with our children and to be aware and monitor what they are accessing, who they are communicating with and what they are watching. Online risks are ever-changing and so it is vital that we all work together to be up-to-date with the risks facing our children. The 4 Cs are useful to keep in mind when deciding what is safe for our children to access online. More information can be found [here](#).

Did you know?

Every Wednesday, we post online safety advice onto our X (Twitter) page!

Check out our website, in the connected curriculum - online safety section where you can find some of these guides along with additional key information.

The National College website has a lot of advice, guides and videos. Please feel free to click the link below which allows you to access the wide range of great resources.

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/ravenscote-junior-school>