

The Melbury College E-Safety Information for Parents and Carers

Dear Parent/Carer

Help With E-Safety

Many adults can find it difficult to advise their children on how to stay safe on the Internet and when using mobile phones. Social networking sites like Snap Chat, Instagram, Facebook and Twitter, are all attractive and familiar to young people. However they often lack the maturity to recognise that feeling safe is not the same as being safe. Melbury College have put together this booklet, to provide parents and carers with some useful resources and helpful tips and suggestions on how you can keep your children safe online.

We can help

If you need further help on matters concerning your child's safety online, or are concerned about your child's use of information technology, then we are always willing to offer support. We look forward to working with you to keep your child safe and responsible in their use of information Technology

"Feeling safe is not being safe."

The SMART Rules

Melbury College encourages students to follow the SMART rules which are recommended by ChildLine International and KIDSmart. We encourage all adults with responsibility for the care of young people to support these rules. You can find more info on this on page 3 of the leaflet.

Questions for parents and carers to Consider

Does my child:

- a. Use the SMART rules?
- b. Know where to go for help if they need it?
- c. Know how to report bullying, threats or unwanted attention from adults and peers.
- d. Use safe privacy settings on social networking sites like Facebook?
- e. Keep personal information private?
- f. Know what counts as personal information?
- g. Know the difference between private and public space?
- h. Keep personal, intimate or embarrassing images and messages off the Internet?
- i. Allow other people to take personal information and images from them?
- j. Know that what they put out on the Internet can come back to embarrass or harm them later in adult life?
- k. Know that some adults use the Internet to pursue an inappropriate and predatory interest in children?
- l. Have a healthy balance of Internet or gaming time with sleep, exercise and face to face social interaction with friends?

Be smart on the internet



S

SAFE

Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information – such as your full name, email address, phone number, home address, photos or school name – to people you are chatting with online.



M

MEETING

Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present.



A

ACCEPTING

Accepting emails, IM messages, or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!



R

RELIABLE

Information you find on the internet may not be true, or someone online may be lying about who they are.



T

TELL

Tell your parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.

**THINK
U
KNOW**

You can report online abuse to the police at www.thinkuknow.co.uk



www.kidsmart.org.uk

KidSMART



Visit Childnet's Kidsmart website to play interactive games and test your online safety knowledge. You can also share your favourite websites and online safety tips by Joining Hands with people all around the world.



Where to find useful

Information:

1. The **Know It All** interactive resource is available at:

www.childnet.com/kia



2. The **KidSMART** website is a useful resource for parents and young people:

www.kidsmart.org.uk



3. The **ChildnetInternational** website provides useful information and advice for parents:

www.chidnet.com



4. The **ThinkuKnow** website provides helpful tips and advice for parents and carers:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

