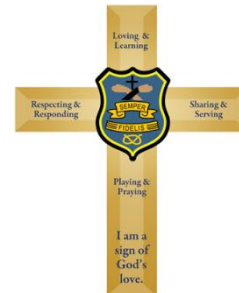


# Online Safety at St Francis



At St Francis, we take Online safety seriously, according to Internet Matters 89% of 10 – 12 year olds have social media accounts. A recent Ofcom report indicated that 58% of children, under the age of 11years, have a social media account which has been set up by their parents.

In school, we have a robust Online safety scheme of work, teaching children how to stay safe online – this is not enough! We need parents and carers to continue educating and monitoring children's digital footprint in society. **Do you know what your child is doing online? Do you know who your child is talking to online? Do you know what your child is sharing and seeing online?**

## Broadband set up

Have you set up appropriate settings on your broadband/Wi-Fi? Most broadband providers include parental controls for free as part of their broadband package, which means that any device that connects to your Wi-Fi will be protected by any controls you set up. Find out how to set yours up here:

### Sky:

<https://www.sky.com/help/diagnostics/sky-broadband-buddy/sky-broadband-buddy>

### BT:

<https://www.bt.com/help/security/how-to-keep-your-family-safe-online-with-bt-parental-controls-an>

### Talk Talk:

<https://community.talktalk.co.uk/t5/Keepin-g-your-Family-Safe/bd-p/kfshub>

### Virgin:

<https://www.virginmedia.com/broadband/parental-control>

Remember, children may have devices that use mobile data, so they won't always be connected to your wifi. Ensure you set up parental controls on these devices too. Further information:  
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parental-controls-offered-by-your-home-internet-provider>

New apps are being created at an alarming rate. Children are curious and want to be part of the latest trends. Please monitor your child's app usage and question new apps.



## Whizz – Make new friends app -

Whizz is a social networking platform and is rated for 'Teens' on the Google Play store and as 12+ on the App store. It is free to download but does have in-app purchases ranging from £0.89 to £44.99.

### This app is not suitable for children.

Users swipe through the app to find people who are currently online and who they would like to chat with. Users will be chatting with strangers, which can present risks. Internet Matters have produced advice around chatting with strangers here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online/advice-for-parents/tackling-the-hard-stuff-on-social-media-to-support-young-people/chatting-to-strangers-online/>

## Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary

**DSL:** Designated Safeguarding Lead

**SPOC:** Single Point of Contact (PREVENT) - responsible for preventing children being impacted by extremism

**PREVENT:** Part of the Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

**LADO:** Local Authority Designated Officer—the person who deals with position of trust safeguarding issues

**CEOP:** Child Exploitation and On-line Protection Centre

## Who's Who



**Mrs Wright DSL & SPOC**



**Mrs Richards Deputy DSL**



**Mr Turner Deputy DSL & DSPOC**

## Online Safety Parent Workshops

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
9.15 am  
&  
2.30 pm

Please call the school office to register your interest. You only need to attend one session.

## Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary about Safeguarding

**KCSIE:** Keeping Children Safe in Education (available on the school web pages)

**CPOMS** – Child Protection Online Monitoring and Safeguarding system (safeguarding and child protection software for schools)

**EH:** Early Help

**CIN:** Child in Need

**CP:** Child Protection

**SEND:** Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

**NSPCC:** National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

**National Online Safety:** Online training and support for families about all things online

## Safeguarding Information at St Francis

We have prepared key information on the school website for parents to access important documents and contact details.

Please have a look at:  
<https://www.st-francis-p.walsall.sch.uk/safeguarding.htm>

## Social Media

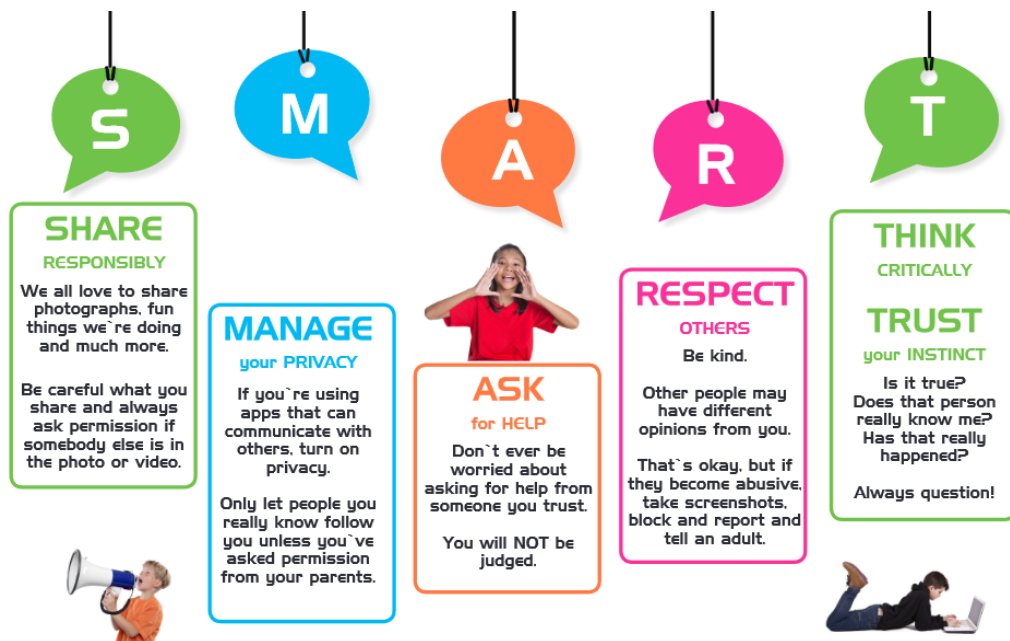
It is important to know that all social media platforms and messaging apps have age limits. Some social networks use technologies that may not be right for some ages or engage with communities made up of people much older than your child.

Internet Matters share age ratings for common social media apps and explain the risks of underage children having social media accounts.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-age-can-my-child-start-social-networking/>



Safety-advisor.com reminds young people that they need to be 'SMART' when using the internet:



## Creating a balanced digital diet

Like a healthy meal, a healthy digital diet can help children to develop good online habits. Use our digital diet tips to help children prioritise screen time activities in a balanced way.



## Report an issue

If you're worried about anything you or your child come across online, we'd advise you to report it immediately to the relevant organisation and to the site where you or your child saw it. The link below will guide you to report your concern:  
<https://www.internetmatters.org/report-issue/>