

LARCHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Larchwood Gardens
Pilgrims Hatch
Brentwood
Essex CM15 9NG



T: 01277 372450
E: office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk
W: www.LarchwoodPrimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr.S.Bowsher

22nd March 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

At Larchwood, we believe that promoting online safety plays a critical role in protecting our pupils online. We are writing to you today as we believe it is important for us to work in partnership with you, to keep pupils safe online.

Our online safety measures enable us to provide an environment for all our pupils to thrive, grow and learn, whilst staying safe online. We put these measures in place through policies and security provisions which safeguard pupils against unsuitable content and contact, and ensure they maintain appropriate conduct.

As a parent / carer, it is very important you continue to have regular conversations with children about what they are doing online and what social networks, apps and games they are using. You should listen to any worries or anxieties your children may have and let them know they can always come to you if they are concerned about anything.

As a result of the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, our pupils are very likely to be spending more time online. Due to increased access to numerous different technology platforms, we are concerned that many children and young people are at a greater risk of online grooming, cyber bullying, and exposure to inappropriate or illegal content online. As such we have taken part in a training session with two experts in this field called 'The Two Johns' ([eSafety Training](#)). This training explored online risks, with a specific focus on those presented by COVID-19 and the latest period of lockdown.

This week we will be speaking to pupils about the potential risks online and how to keep themselves safe when using technology. We will be using age appropriate lesson videos and learning resources to support these discussions, and want to make you aware that the content may be thought-provoking and could prompt your child to want further discussion at home. It is important for children to have a safe environment in which to explore issues and we want to work in partnership with home to support these conversations. We have provided some useful websites below for you to access for further information.

Mr S Bowsher
Headteacher



For more information on ensuring your child's safety online, you can visit the 2 Johns website:
www.esafetytraining.org

Other useful websites:

<p>NSPCC - information on a variety of online safety topics. Examples include parental controls, advice on sexting, and online games and video apps</p>
<p>NSPCC Net Aware - news, information and updates around the social networks, Apps and games that children are using</p>
<p>Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command – 'CEOP' - Law enforcement agency working to keep children and young people safe from sexual exploitation and abuse. Children, young people, their parents or carers and professionals can report concerns online to CEOP's Child Protection Advisors. CEOP also offers a range of information about keeping safe from child sexual exploitation. This is separate information for different age ranges – for example 5-7, 8-10, 11-13 and 14+ year olds</p>
<p>Thinkuknow - an education programme from CEOP / National Crime Agency. Advice separated into age groups and topics relating to staying safe using a phone, tablet or computer</p>
<p>Childnet International - children's charity with a range of free practical resources about online safety. For teachers, including for children with Special Educational Needs.</p>
<p>Internet Matters - Not-for-profit organisation. Works to empower parents and carers to keep children safe in the digital world</p>
<p>Parent Info - Safety advice in relation to a range of online harms. Endorsed by the National Crime Agency's CEOP command</p>

