



CHENIES SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers

Internet Safety

Thank-you to the parents who were able to attend yesterday's Parent Forum on Internet Safety. We feel this was an extremely important topic to inform parents about and was disappointed by the low turnout. If there were reasons why parents could not attend or this was not a good time of day to run the forum, but parents would like us to repeat the session, we are more than willing to organise another session. Please complete the form at the bottom of the sheet and if there is sufficient need to warrant a second session we will organise it.

We are by no means the experts in this field, but we do feel it is our duty to impart our knowledge and signpost our parents and carers for further support and guidance in this area.

All our information has come from the CEOP website and further support and guidance can be found at www.thinkuknow.co.uk, alternatively there are links and fact sheets on our school website cheniesschool.eschools.co.uk/site/20724-our-school/-page-86803-e-safety

You will be aware the internet hosts many exciting opportunities for education. The online world is a wonderful place for young people to explore, with unprecedented opportunities for learning and creativity, but just like the real world there are risks and dangers they should be aware of and which we should all act to protect them from. As a school we encourage the use of technology as an important part of our students' development but always want them to spend their time online safely. As a parent or carer you can play a significant part in ensuring this.

Just a few simple steps by you can help keep them safe and give young people the awareness to know what to do if they feel uncomfortable about anything they encounter while on the internet.

If you do not wish for your child to be able to access any inappropriate content online, please ensure that their computers, laptops and other devices with internet access are all fitted with parental controls.

You can find free downloadable versions online or you can contact your internet service provider (such as BT, Talk Talk, Sky) for more information.

As a **minimum**, please set parental controls on your search engines, youtube account and the mobile phone your child uses.

One of the most popular search engines in the world is Google. You can visit Google's informative safety centre for **simple** step by step guides - www.google.com/familysafety/tools



Here are a few options available to you which are truly are simple to set.

Visit the Google home page – www.google.co.uk and click on the 'search setting' tab in the top right hand corner.



Scroll down the page and change the filtering options to suit your family's needs. Make sure you lock the safe search; otherwise these settings can easily be changed without your knowledge.

SafeSearch Filtering [Google's SafeSearch](#) blocks web pages containing explicit sexual content from appearing in search results.

- ☐ Use strict filtering (Filter both explicit text and explicit images)
- ☒ Use moderate filtering (Filter explicit images only - default behavior)
- ☐ Do not filter my search results

Lock SafeSearch This will apply strict filtering to all searches from this computer using Internet Explorer. [Learn more](#)

You can also set this on your child's smart phone;

SafeSearch on your phone

SafeSearch is accessible on your mobile device by using the browser to access the Google homepage. Choose settings located at the bottom of the screen and you'll see the option to select Strict, Moderate or to turn SafeSearch off completely.



Please be aware that no filter is 100% accurate. The most effective way to guide your child to be safe on the internet is to talk to them about the sites they use. Why don't you discuss:

- Their favourite online sites
- What they enjoy most, the fun aspects of being online?
- What they think can go wrong?
- How would they react if things got out of control?

Let them know that you understand that situations happen online and that seeing 'adult' material can make them feel uncomfortable. Make sure they know that you are there to help. Having these conversations while they are young is securing their safety the older they get.

Please complete the reply slip below if you would be interested in attending a Parent Forum in the future.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Burnett & Gill Knight
Headteacher ICT Leader

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(Insert names) _____ would be interested in attending a Parent Forum about Internet Safety. The best time of day would be: _____

After drop off (9am) _____

Before pick up (2.00) _____

Evening __ Please indicate from what time would be the most convenient _____