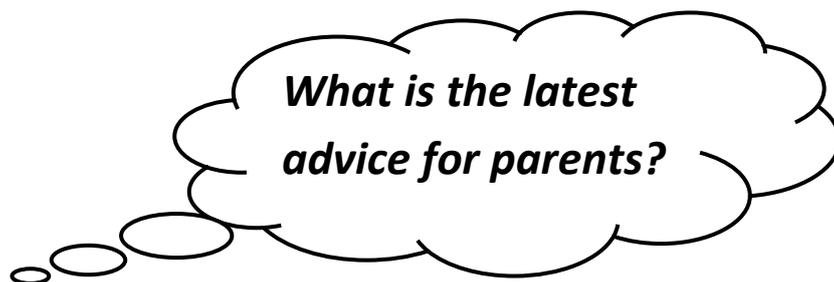


E-Safety Advice for Parents/ Carers



Update May 2014



<p>Monitoring your child's online activity:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Try having as a house rule that mobiles and other devices are charged overnight in the living room, so that children are not accessing the internet in their rooms while everyone else is asleep.• Many admissions tutors and employers use peoples' "digital tattoo" (so called, as it is there forever) when processing applications for university places / jobs. Discuss your daughter's online history with her – her posts, tweets, profiles etc. This can also be a positive thing, which she can use to her advantage.
<p>Social networking sites:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find out what to do if you / your daughter wish to have something taken down from a social networking site. You can check if the nature of a post, for instance, breaks the site's terms of use and request they remove it, e.g. if bullying. If a photo or video of a child under 18 contains sexual content it is illegal, even the child has taken it of themselves. Report it as child abuse on the CEOP website. If you report an illegal image to facebook or youtube as child abuse, they will take it down within an hour. It is illegal to copy or distribute such an image, so avoid doing this yourself.• Perpetrators are known to go through children's profiles on social networking sites looking for photos or videos of a sexual or revealing nature that they can use as leverage: regularly check that your daughter's privacy settings are set to "high" and warn her that she is making herself more vulnerable by posting inappropriate or embarrassing images / videos of herself.• Perpetrators try to get hold of children's log in details & passwords for social networking sites and use these as leverage: your daughter must be advised not to share these with anyone and not to enter them if sent a link which asks her to log in to her account.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some social networking sites make child users particularly vulnerable to exploitation as they give out their location. Parents should encourage children to share what applications they are using and check to see if this is a feature of ones they are using.
Online gaming & chat rooms:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your daughter uses chatrooms or plays games online, she will come into contact with a large number of strangers. She must be warned to be on her guard if a stranger asks her to go into a more private area of a website for a chat away from other users. She should also never share her ids for skype, social networking sites etc with people she meets in games or in chat rooms. • Many perpetrators use webcam chat as a way of grooming and abusing children on sites such as tinychat, omegle, chat roulette and via skype. Much of the conversation that goes on on these sites is highly sexualised. Children should also be told to look out for warning signs e.g. the images and audio not lip-syncing, as they might not be talking to the person they think. • Previous advice was for children never to arrange to meet people they have only had contact with online. In the face of this becoming increasingly unrealistic, current advice is that they should always arrange to meet in a public place (not in a car), have credit on their mobile phone, tell someone, <u>be accompanied by a trusted adult</u> and should be encouraged actively to look out for signs they are being manipulated or groomed. Encourage your child to assess critically who they come across online – if a person is too good to be true, they probably are.
Pornography:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been much research carried out recently on the impact on children of viewing pornography on the internet where it is widely accessible, anonymous and affordable. It can have a detrimental effect on the sexual development of young people and their understanding of sex and relationships. Parents are advised to use the filter available from their internet provider.
Bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyberbullying is becoming increasingly anonymous and relentless and bullying might involve multiple bullies online. If your daughter experiences cyber bullying she should report it and print screen shots of any evidence

	<p>before it is investigated. She mustn't respond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people are increasingly using sites like 'Snapchat' for bullying where messages / images appear to disappear without trace after a few seconds. Advice is to take a screen shot, if possible, if subjected to this form of bullying. Advice for young people is to be careful about any content they post via such sites, as it is not uncommon that for it to reappear on other websites at a later date. • Misuse of social networking sites is having a detrimental effect on children's development. Sites like ask.fm which allow for anonymous bullying have been shown to have a huge impact on victims' self esteem. In addition, by posting online (rather than interacting face-to-face), children are unable to see the impact of their own behaviour on others, thereby not allowing them to develop the skill of empathy. Parents are advised to talk around these issues with their children to support their emotional development.
<p>Information & advice:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can check the CEOP website for the latest threats to children online. • There are organisations which are recommended and support young people online – CEOPS (particularly important for reporting suspected online grooming / abuse and for information – there is a link to the red CEOP report button on the top right corner school website), Childline (which has an online counselling service), the Internet Watch Foundation (which can implement 'take down' notices of child abuse material and extreme pornography) and Beat Bullying (which has a Cyber mentors scheme).