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Dear Parents/Carers,

During the Autumn term we will be reminding all the pupils about the need to stay safe when using computers and the Internet (e-safety). This is part of the National Curriculum and issues such as identity theft and cyberbullying are topics for discussion.

To ensure the privacy and safety of pupils when using the Internet in school, pupils are expected to abide by the following rules:

- I will keep my usernames and passwords private and tell a trusted adult if someone else knows them.
- I will be careful when talking to people online and will only talk to people I know and trust.
- I will not share personal information like my name, address, or photos without asking a trusted adult.
- I will only take or share images of myself, or others, when fully dressed.
- If I see or hear something online that worries or upsets me, I will tell a trusted adult straight away.
- I will only meet people I have spoken to online if a trusted adult is with me.
- I will only use devices, apps and sites that I am allowed to, and will check if I am unsure.
- I will always ask permission and check with a trusted adult before using someone else's work or pictures.
- I will make sure the information I find online is true by checking carefully.
- I will only use apps or tools, like AI, that my trusted adult has said are OK, and I will ask for help if I'm unsure.
- I will not copy or use music, videos, or games unless I have permission.
- I will tell a trusted adult about any damage to devices or if anything else goes wrong.
- I will check with trusted adults before clicking on any unexpected messages or links (even if these look as though they are from people that I already know).
- I will treat others kindly online, just as I do in real life.
- I will make good choices about what I share online to protect myself and others.
- I will spend a healthy amount of time using devices and make time for other activities too.
- I will always think about how my behaviour online could affect me, my friends, and my school.

Please can you read through the above rules with your child and discuss them in relation, not just to the devices used in school, but also those used in the home. To confirm that your child has understood the importance of these rules, we would be grateful if you and your child could **both** complete the slip on the second page and return it to the class teacher.

Kind regards,

Mrs Swinton – Computing Curriculum Lead

BE 'SMART' ON THE INTERNET

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

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.

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.

RELIABLE: Information you find on the Internet may not be true, or someone online may be lying about who they say they are.

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.

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

For further information or help with online safety matters (e.g., setting parental controls) the Internet Matters website (www.internetmatters.org) is highly recommended.

A brilliant resource with fun online games is available from Google's 'Be Internet Legends' scheme (www.beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com). Children can play the games of Interland and learn how to stay safe online.

Age Ratings

Another part of keeping children safe online is making sure they are not accessing inappropriate content. This means not allowing your child to use a game or app which has a rating above their age. All age ratings on games and apps are set for a reason - the content may show violence or gore, there may be swearing, it might be possible for unknown people to contact another player, it may be that the app requires higher emotional maturity than primary school children have, etc. We are aware of children using a number of different apps and games, and would like to remind you of the following:

App or Game		Age Rating	Yeargroup
Minecraft	MINECRAFT	7 www.pegi.info	Year 3+
Roblox	ROBLOX		Year 3+
Fortnite	FORTNITE	12	Year 8+
TikTok	TikTok	13+	Year 9+

App or Game		Age Rating	Yeargroup
Instagram	Instagram	13+	Year 9+
SnapChat	Snapchat		Year 9+
Facebook	facebook		Year 9+
WhatsApp	WhatsApp	16+	Year 12+

Please complete the reply slip below and return to your child's class teacher. Thank you.

Name of pupil _____ Class _____

I have read through the rules as outlined in Mrs Swinton's letter regarding safety in school and how following these can also help to keep my child safe when using device connected to the Internet outside school.

Parent's signature _____

Print name _____ Date _____

I have read through the rules with my parent/carer as outlined in Mrs Swinton's letter regarding safety in school and how these can also help to keep me safe when using device connected to the Internet outside school.

Pupil signature_____ Date _____