



ONLINE SAFETY

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children and young people; therefore, it is incredibly important that our school community works together to safeguard our children, taking an active role in teaching them how to act safely and responsibly when using the internet.

The web has become an integral part of our life and that of our pupils. Just as you want to keep your child safe in the real world, you will want to do the same in the virtual world. It is important that we understand enough about the internet to keep our children safe from harm but it is equally important that we equip them with the skills they need to keep *themselves* safe, so they can use it positively and age appropriately.

In Dovedale, we believe that internet safety education is a crucial element of the curriculum and essential to children's development. Whilst we continually deliver a range of e-safety learning opportunities for our pupils throughout the year, we are unable to monitor their exposure to content outside of school. We are becoming increasingly concerned with the access to inappropriate platforms and material experienced by some of our children. This can often result in having a negative impact on relationships in school and being extremely time consuming and difficult for our staff to try to resolve.

Below is a list of some more popular sites which should not be accessed by **any** child in Dovedale as all have an age-rating above that of a primary school pupil. We have included Roblox as the chat facility persistently causes numerous problems in school.



Age rating: 13+ Action violence / Adult language / Cyber-bullying/ Online predators



Common Sense Media rating: 16 + Inappropriate content / Disappearing messages / Stranger Danger



Common Sense Media rating: 15+ Depressive and suicidal content/Infinite scrolling/Sexualised song lyrics/Inappropriate content frequently missed by filtering



Age rating: 16+ Unsafe for children / Risk of bullying / Pressure to respond / Privacy issues / Geographical location sharing



Age rating: 13+ Explicit content / Reports of harmful and illegal content / Cyber-bullying



Age rating: 13+ Auto-play of adult videos / Violence / Suicidal content / Explicit language / Harmful comments



Age rating: 7+ Whilst deemed age-appropriate for children, risks still include: Cyber bullying / Account takeovers / Adult content / Online predators



Age rating: 13+ Viewing inappropriate content, negative interactions & cyber-bullying, being influenced by others, negative comparison to a typically false reality

Whilst we recognise the fantastic world of technology accessible to our children and actively embrace supporting them with the skills to thrive in the 21st century, we cannot ignore the significant disadvantages that excessive screen use presents. The attached document will provide some further information and guidance:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/parents-and-carers-resource->