

'Respectful and resilient; being the best that we can be.'

Timothy Hackworth Primary School



Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2022

### Online Safety Update for Parents and Carers

CRC Article 19 – All children have the right to be safe.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been brought to our attention that an increasing number of children, particularly in Years 4, 5 and 6 are accessing the internet inappropriately, out of school. An increasing number of children are also posting highly inappropriate content online also, out of school, causing upset to their peers, staff members, and ultimately themselves and their families.

Unfortunately, in this current day and age, children seem to think that, out of school, whatever their online activity is, that it can easily be deleted and therefore removed. This is not the case. Any content that is posted online can always be traced.

As part of our everyday teaching in school about online safety, an area of the curriculum in our school that has been recently reviewed and praised by Durham County Council's Online Safety Education Team, children continue to be taught how to stay safe online. This is a very important part of our curriculum, and something which we take very seriously. However, it is becoming apparent that children are not being supervised whilst online by parents and carers at home, leading to inappropriate behaviours, both out of school, and then in school, as a result.

Should your child be found to be accessing and/or posting inappropriate internet content at home, parents and carers will always be contacted and further action taken where necessary to ensure that children are safe. Where there are concerns, the police and relevant agencies are always contacted by our Designated Safeguarding Leads as part of our safeguarding procedures.

Just to remind you, should you need to report any safeguarding concerns, our Designated Safeguarding Leads in school are: Mrs. Boulton, Mrs. Slattery, Mrs. Kozlowski, Miss Stainsby and Mrs. Mathwin.

Please contact school should you require any support with this, and please ensure that you are aware of what your child is doing when they are online, so that they are safe.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs. L. Boulton*

*Mrs. J. Slattery*

*Mrs. P. Crook*

Head Teacher

Deputy Head Teacher

Chair of Governors

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