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ONLINE SAFETY

22nd December 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the Christmas period is upon us, we just wanted to offer some support and advice to you about how to support your children online.

Christmas is a time when lots of children receive devices that are able to access the internet and social media such as tablets, smartphones, games consoles and laptops.

If these devices are new to children, they can often not secure the settings sufficiently and this can unfortunately put them at risk.

There are also programmes and applications they can access such as YouTube, Netflix and Amazon where they can watch programmes that are often not age appropriate and not suitable for them to watch. Games consoles are often played by children where games are a classified 18 certificate. Even if children play with the sound down, the content of these games is not suitable for children to play or watch.

Please ensure you check the settings of devices and monitor what children are watching and who they are talking to, in addition to ensuring that the things that they are watching/playing are age appropriate for them to be accessing.

www.thinkuknow.co.uk is a brilliant website that can help and support you as a family to stay safe online. There are also many 'think you know videos' you can watch on YouTube that will show you how to manage settings and secure your child's online world so any risk is reduced and, where possible, completely eliminated.

We have also attached several documents that can support you to monitor the online behaviour of children and young people. We hope that you find this information useful.

If you believe you have an issue over the festive period with online safety please call 101 and speak to Cheshire Police for advice.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Best wishes,

Mrs L. Duckett

'In God's love, aspire and achieve to be the best'