

24<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

## **KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE**

Gravel Hill is committed to keeping children safe online. All of our pupils are taught e-safety, but this approach is only successful if we work with our families and reinforce safe behaviour outside of school too. As shops start advertising new electronic devices and games for Christmas it seems an appropriate time to highlight some safety tips to help you make informed choices. Please research any device or game before purchasing them for your child. UK safer internet centre advocates asking the following questions:

### Internet

- Can the device access the internet?
- Can you choose to disable the internet access?
- Can you filter the internet content?

On both mobile data and Wi-Fi?

### Apps

- Does this device come with any pre-installed apps?
- Can I prevent my child from downloading apps which are not age appropriate?

### Personal Information

- How can you set a PIN to lock the phone when it is not being used?
- Does this phone have any location services?
- Are there any settings to prevent my child sharing their location?
- Are there parental controls or ways of restricting spending?

It is good practice to familiarise yourself with the device so you can support your child in accessing the safety and security tools. You may wish to set some boundaries to help keep your children safe online. These could be around:

- Times and places they are allowed to use their devices
- Amount of time they are allowed to spend per day
- What apps and social media sites they are allowed to use
- Checking the content or asking permission before downloading
- Speaking to an adult if they see something that upsets them

We hope you find this information useful. For more information please visit:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

Yours sincerely



Miss M Neale  
**Headteacher**

### Communication

- What are the ways this device can be used to communicate with people?
- Can you video call with this device?
- Can you disable video call?
- Can you block unwanted contacts?

### Gaming

- Can I restrict access to content based on age ratings?
- How do I know if a game allows multiplayer gaming online?
- Is it possible to limit the amount of time my child can play with this device?