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Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from my letter to you in November regarding online safety, I am writing to share further guidance and resources that may support you in continuing important conversations with your child or children about their online lives.

As highlighted previously, the online world evolves quickly, and staying informed helps us to safeguard young people effectively—both at home and in school.

Where to get help and advice

You may recall that we previously signposted Childnet and the UK Safer Internet Centre as trusted sources of information. I would like to draw your attention to two particularly useful areas of support:

- The UK Safer Internet Centre's Need Help? page provides clear guidance on how to report specific online concerns to organisations outside of school, including issues such as inappropriate content, online grooming, or harmful behaviour: saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/need-help
- The Professionals Online Safety Helpline offers free, confidential advice to anyone working with children and young people on online safety concerns, including gaming, cyberbullying, sexting and social media.
- Telephone: 0344 381 4772 (Monday–Friday, 10am–4pm)
- Email: helpline@saferinternet.org.uk
- Website: saferinternet.org.uk/professionals-online-safety-helpline

Although designed for professionals, parents and carers may find reassurance in knowing that expert advice is readily available should school staff need further guidance to support a concern.

Supporting conversations at home: ReelLife

We would strongly encourage families to explore ReelLife, a resource produced by Childnet that helps young people reflect on:

- what they choose to post online
- the messages they may receive
- the content they might see on social media

ReelLife is available as a gamified interactive activity, as well as a printable version that can be worked through together at home: <https://www.childnet.com/resources/reellife/>

Taking time to go through this with your child can be a valuable way of opening up discussion about online choices, boundaries and support.

Understanding livestreaming

Livestreaming is increasingly common and allows users to broadcast live video on platforms such as Instagram, TikTok, Twitch and YouTube.

Young people may livestream to friends, selected groups, or sometimes to a wider public audience. To help schools and families address this safely, Childnet has produced To Stream or Not to Stream, a resource which includes:

- an introduction for adults on how young people engage with livestreaming
- scenario-based activities to explore potential risks
- practical livestreaming tips created by Childnet Digital Leaders

You can access this resource here: <https://www.childnet.com/resources/to-stream-or-not-to-stream/>

We encourage parents and carers to review this information and discuss livestreaming with their child, particularly around privacy, consent and personal safety.

As shared previously, I will continue to produce a termly online harms briefing handout for parents and carers. Each briefing will focus on a current issue and provide clear, practical guidance alongside trusted sources of support.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership in keeping our students safe. Open, informed conversations at home make a significant difference, and we greatly appreciate your engagement with this important area of safeguarding.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to a parent and carer community event taking place on Monday 27 January, from 5:30–6:30pm.

During the evening, we will:

- share an overview of what your son or daughter experiences in lessons
- provide key community safeguarding information
- explain our approach to behaviour, expectations and school culture

To help us with planning, we kindly ask that you complete the [Google Form linked](#) to indicate your attendance. As a thank you, all completed forms will be entered into a free raffle, which will be drawn during the event.

For families who may need to bring younger children, a dedicated, supervised room will be available, offering activities and light refreshments allowing you to step out if needed.

We hope you are able to join us and look forward to welcoming you into our Academy for what promises to be a valuable and informative evening.

Yours faithfully,



Clare Schulze
Vice Principal