



# All Saints' CE Primary School

**Headteacher:** Mrs L de Graaff

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Caring and Achieving

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term the children have been learning about online safety in computing and PSHE lessons. A number of the children have shared that they play games that are not age appropriate and are communicating and playing games with people online that they do not know. This is a safeguarding concern for us as the children don't know if the people that they are playing with are who they say they are. Please speak to your child about 'friends' online and the dangers of communicating with strangers.

I have also been alerted to incident that took place last night with one of our children whilst they were playing a Roblox game called Brookhaven. The child was asked a number of personal questions and was followed into a room in the game where 'he' stood against the door so that the child couldn't get out calling them 'babe' and asked the child to sleep in a bed with him. Although this all happened virtually, you can see the dangers that online games can pose to our children.

The children also mentioned playing a variety of games that have age restrictions higher than their age e.g. Fortnite (age 14). The following is a list of age restrictions for a range of apps that your child may wish to play or use:

App	Age Restriction
WhatsApp	16
Instagram	13+
Facebook messenger	13+
YouTube	13+
TikTok	13+
Snapchat	13+
Xbox	18 or parental consent
Nintendo	13+
Play Station	18 or parental consent
Roblox	Age restrictions must be set by parents. Roblox groups games into four age-based categories to indicate appropriateness: All Ages, 9+, 13+, and 17+

I would like to suggest several fantastic websites that can offer help and support with ensuring that you keep your child safe online at home:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

**Caring and achieving with Jesus at our side**

*"I can do all things through him (Jesus) who gives me strength" – Philippians 4:13*



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Common sense Media is a non-profit organisation that give sensible reviews and ratings of games, apps etc to help parents to make informed decisions about which online media to let their children engage with <https://www.common sense media.org/>

Following the number of concerns that have been raised by parents, I will be holding another online safety workshop for parents in the spring term. Please look out for this in future newsletters.

In the meantime, I ask that you talk to your child about the dangers of talking to and playing with strangers online.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'L M de Graaff'.

Mrs Louise de Graaff  
Headteacher

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