



Friday 1st February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that this letter finds you and your family happy and well. Please find enclosed some useful information and guidance from the NSPCC regarding online safety while children work remotely, as well as updated expectations for behaviour and engagement during this time.

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, people are relying even more on online technology. Due to lockdowns and high-level restrictions, children are spending more time at home and may not be able to see friends and family in person. This makes keeping in touch online extra important.

Many children are spending more time online – and expanding the ways they use the internet. They may join online communities or start using new video-calling platforms for

- Engaging in remote learning
- providing specialist support to children, such as counselling and therapy
- promoting events
- livestreaming activities
- creating online groups, forums and communities.

While all this can bring benefits to children's mental health and wellbeing, children can be exposed to risk online and may be exposed to:

- inappropriate content
- online abuse
- cyberbullying
- sexual exploitation
- sexting
- grooming
- radicalisation.

Children may be exposed to upsetting or inappropriate content online, particularly if the platform you're using doesn't have robust privacy and security settings or if you're not checking posts. This content might be sexually explicit or it might be harmful in other ways, such as radicalisation, bullying, or content that's upsetting.

Children may be at risk of being groomed or radicalised if they have an online profile that means they can be contacted privately. Children's posts or profile information may expose personal information and put them at risk. For example, they may talk about their home life, feelings, or thoughts they've been having. There may be information that makes them identifiable such as locations of events they are taking part in or visual clues in photographs. Perpetrators may use this information to groom, abuse or exploit children.

To help you understand and tackle the risks all children face online, the NSPCC has pulled together some useful updated information on tips for parents and carers and advice to share with children. Please see here: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/2020/may/online-safety-during-coronavirus#heading-top>

Other useful internet safety sites:

General useful info: <https://www.stcuthbertscofeprimary.co.uk/online-safety-parent-information/>

Internet matters - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online

https://www.internetmatters.org/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIktuA5LWK2wIVRYXVCh2afg2aEAAYASAAEgIJ5vD_BwE

London Grid for Learning - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online

<https://www.lgfl.net/online-safety/default.aspx>

Net-aware - for support for parents and carers from the NSPCC <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

Parent info - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online <https://parentinfo.org/>

Thinkuknow - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online

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

UK Safer Internet Centre - advice for parents and carers

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Ark Oval's Behaviour Expectations

- Maintain kind and respectful relations.
- Speaker muted unless directed otherwise.
- Only use the chat function to respond to teacher questions and to ask necessary questions (do so by directly tagging their teacher using the @ key and selecting their teacher's name).
- Children leave lessons when asked so that teachers can have seminars.
- General online expectations: students & parents should never attempt to contact staff via social media or make comments about staff on social media platforms. Any inappropriate comments to staff online, via email, or any other platform will be taken very seriously and could result in a referral to the police. This is also the case of for any online bullying towards other pupils or peer-on-peer abuse that is disclosed to the school during this time.

Ark Oval's Engagement Expectations

- **Complete / Attend** registration everyday
- **Complete / Attend** every session including DEAR Time.
- Upload work for every session
- While on Teams children exhibit A in STAR = Ask and Answer questions so that they are present in the now and ready to respond. Expect Cold Calling.

Online Rewards & Consequences

The teachers use the following **rewards and consequences** when on **Teams** to promote positive behaviour and engagement.

Rewards on Teams
House points
Praise / SeeSaw Superstar Shout Out / Emoji
Star of the day
Super Student of the Week
Time to shine & share (teacher dominates a few children to share work / news)

Rewards are given on Teams for:

- Lesson attendance
- Using Teams in line with school expectations
- Enthusiastic participation when Cold Called / Chat
- Following teacher directions

Consequences for inappropriate use of Team functions
1 Reminder
2 Reminder
3 Phone call / informal email home & Loss of Time to shine & share domination.
4. Formal Letter to parent.

The teachers use the following **rewards and consequences** when on **SeeSaw** to promote work uploads / lesson completion / **Team attendance**

SeeSaw Rewards
House points
Praise / SeeSaw Superstar Shout Out
Star of the day
Super Student of the Week

Rewards are given on SeeSaw for:

- Being on SeeSaw
- Uploading work
- Uploading work for all lessons
- Quality of work
- Meeting targets

Engagement consequences
1. Reminder
2. Reminder
3. Phone call / informal email home.
4. Formal Letter.

Thank you for your ongoing support,
Gemma McDonald
Assistant Vice Principal. *Culture, Ethos & Attitudes*

