Mayfield Preparatory School

Covid-19 Remote working additional e-safety policy March 2020

These are uncertain times and the way that we are navigating them is unprecedented. However, the priority of all the stakeholders at Mayfield is to ensure that our students are happy, safe and prosperous. In addition to the school e-safety policy which is available via the school website, Staff, students and parents will agree to the following when conducting Skype, Teams or Zoom lessons:

1. When a pupil has a presence online, and it is used for the purposes of communicating with school, it is to be entered into with the full responsibility being taken by the parent/ guardian/ carer of the pupil.
2. The video call must be started with/by a responsible adult and should be ended by them (as an acknowledgement of the video taking place) - The responsible adult should be in earshot throughout the call, although they do not necessarily have to be continuously in the room (but must be there at the start and the end)
3. Lessons must take place in a suitable area of the house, such as a communal area (i.e. not a bedroom) with the door open throughout.
4. Appropriate clothing (i.e. non-revealing, no pyjamas etc) must be worn.
5. There is to be absolutely under no circumstances any screen grabbing, photographing or videoing of any remote lesson / meeting by any party involved.
6. Communications with or about the school should be made directly with the school. Social networking discussions are not helpful and leave room for ambiguities and the pitfalls that comes with this.
7. Lessons by video call are not a permanent replacement for school-based tuition – once the schools re-open, tuition in school will resume.
8. The school would take a very serious approach to any actions contrary to the above and would pursue any legal action if necessary.

We all have the right to be safeguarded.

E-safety information for Parent: How to keep children safe on line.

Passwords: Remind children about Password safety: - Never share your password - Make your password difficult to guess – include numbers, capitals and special characters.

Catfishing: A 'catfish' is someone who pretends to be someone they're not using Facebook or other social media to create false identities, particularly to pursue deceptive online romances. Ensure that you know who your child is speaking to online and when gaming. It is important that young people understand that 'stranger danger' changes in the online sphere. - Young people often feel as though people they meet online (e.g. through gaming) are through their friends.

Social distancing and isolation may increase this risk, as young people seek interaction online. Make sure they have plenty of time to call/ facetime their school friends and any extended family. - Talk to them about the risks of anonymity, and how someone might find it easy to pretend to be someone else online. - Make sure they know what to do if they feel uncomfortable.

Privacy Settings: To help protect against unwanted online communication, it is helpful to understand and use the privacy settings on all your social media apps. Make sure that you are familiar with these before allowing your young person to use an app. Make sure your privacy settings on your social media are set so that only your friends can see what you post.

Make sure that the images and content you post does not contain personal information such as your date of birth, address, or bank details

Age limits for apps: Often the age limits for apps are much older than we think. Be aware of these limits, as apps will not need to regulate their content.

Often the age limits for apps are much older than we think. Be aware of these limits, as apps will not need to regulate their content. Make sure your privacy settings on your social media are set so that only your friends can see what you post.

App Age Limits:

Facebook: 13 Snapchat: 13

Instagram: 13 Reddit: 13

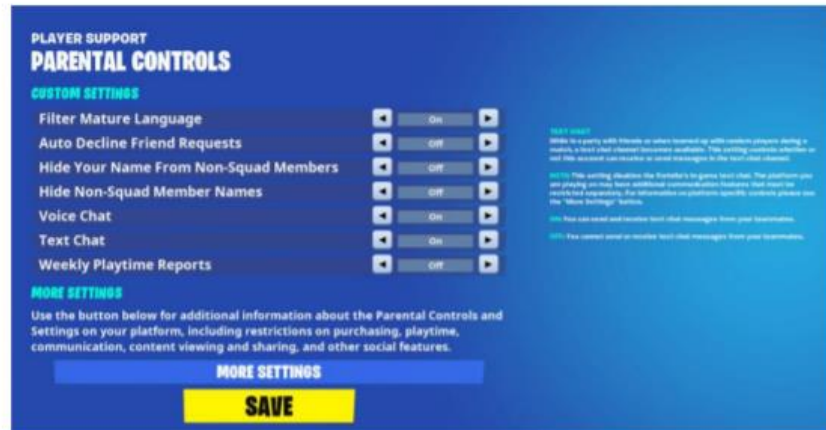Twitter: 13 Pinterest: 13

Tik Tok: 13 Whatsapp: 16

Messenger: 13 YouTube: 18

Telegram: no limit

Online gaming: blocking, reporting, and setting limits: - Make sure you know how to report inappropriate behaviour or language, and that privacy controls are tight. - If appropriate, have these conversations with your young person so they feel involved.

App and screen time management: Tik Tok now has a 'family safety mode' – scanning a QR code from one phone to the other links the accounts and lets the parent password-protect certain features. Find out more here: https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/tiktoks-new-family-safety-mode-whatwe-think/

Talking about online use, time management, and online safety:
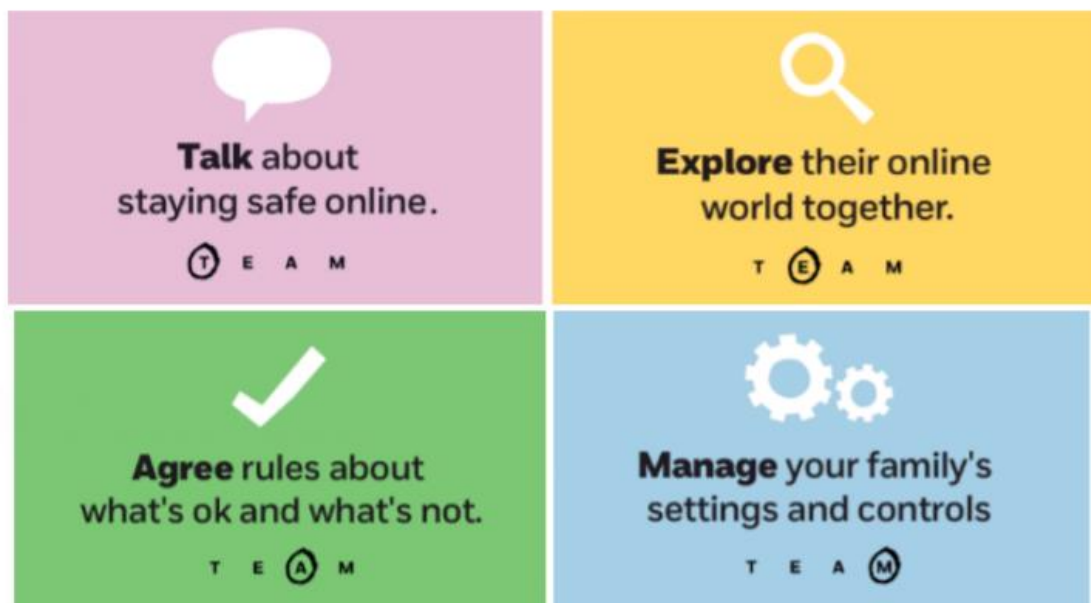
 Positive conversation: Online gaming can provide satisfaction and positive reinforcement, it can build confidence – but that can make it addictive. Escapism and socialisation can also be big factors. Open and mature

conversation with the child can help them manage their own time spent gaming and encourage their own sense of responsibility. Asking them what they would advise a friend is a great conversation starter.

Alternative sources It is important to provide alternative sources of these emotions and the skills used in gaming. Sports, and even activities like cards and puzzles can provide an alternative to the fast and critical thinking utilised in gaming – just without the screen time.

Time management There is no need to ban gaming completely – especially during school closures! But time limitation is beneficial, especially in the evenings as 'Blue light' from screens affects sleep hormones.

Work as a TEAM (NSPCC guidance):

Talk about staying safe online.
T E A M

Explore their online world together.
T E A M

Agree rules about what's ok and what's not.
T E A M

Manage your family's settings and controls
T E A M

What can we do? The internet and 24-hour news cycles means it is impossible to shield children from all kinds of complex and difficult stories – from terror attacks to COVID-19. It is important to facilitate good understanding of these topics, to remove uncertainty and mystery. With open conversation and clear explanations, we can help them feel safe and reminded that the world is still a good place. We can also encourage young people to use their 'critical thinking' and problem-solving skills when using the internet, so that they are able to decide for themselves if an information source is good, or if they should ask an adult.

Parent Resources:

NSPCC online safety: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

Educate Against Hate (online radicalisation):
https://educateagainsthate.com/online-radicalisation/

Parentzone: https://parentzone.org.uk/home

Guide to Apps: https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/

Talking about Coronavirus: As with all difficult topics, clear and factual conversations can help reassure young people, and remove any rumours or misinformation they might have heard from friends or social media. Make sure that you are well informed, using information from the World Health Organisation (WHO), or the NHS websites.

The following videos are also good starting points:

Primary: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqaXBtSaiUE

 https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51887051