



THE MINSTER SCHOOLS

THE NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

THE MINSTER JUNIOR SCHOOL

Executive Headteacher: Ali Silke

Head of School Nursery & Infants: Laura Akhtar

Deputy Headteacher Junior School: Claudette Green

Chair of Governors Nursery & Infants: Ben Welby

Chair of Governors Junior School: Brian Birch

27th February 2025

Dear Minster Families,

Online Safety Feedback

Thank you so much to the many of you who contributed to our recent Online Safety Questionnaire. We know that this is an area of modern life that is of concern to many of us, and that the constant innovations and changes in technology can make it feel challenging to keep our children safe. When I do the annual RHE (Relationships and Health Education) parental consultation, online safety is always among the top concerns for our parents.

We therefore offer above and beyond what is required in our PSHE and Computing Curriculums to our children in terms of ESafety. Each year we have a visiting workshop run by experts and we have developed our own Online Safety curriculum for all children from Reception. Please find an overview of this here: <https://minsterinfants.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/ONLINE-SAFETY-CURRICULUM.pdf>

If we feel there is a need, we also call upon our colleagues in MHST (Mental Health Support Team) to run bespoke workshops in classes or year groups.

It was so useful to receive the feedback and understand your concerns and suggestions more fully. There were some great tips from parents some of which are shared below. A big thank you to all who took the time to do this:

'Ensuring online safety for kids starts with educating them early about risks and safe behavior in simple terms. Use parental controls to enable filters and monitoring tools on devices and apps, and set clear screen time limits to manage usage. Keep devices in common areas to avoid unsupervised internet access in private spaces. Teach kids the importance of privacy, reminding them never to share personal information online. Encourage open communication so they feel comfortable discussing anything they encounter online. Model good behavior by demonstrating responsible online habits yourself. Stay updated on the latest apps, games, and trends to understand what your kids are using. Teach them to create and use strong passwords, and encourage reporting of cyberbullying or suspicious behavior to a trusted adult. Small, consistent steps can make a significant difference in keeping kids safe online, fostering a secure and positive digital environment for them to explore and learn.'

'Disable all communication access on games first, as well as payment methods on devices, as well as setting age limits.'

'Yes, use parental control and if they have to watch videos use platforms with kids' filters on it'



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'Be present while your child is online, check any messaging platforms each time it is used'

'Be alert to what your child is watching, don't allow them to use headphones.'

'Install Google Family link or iPhone family settings.'

'Don't tell passcodes to kids they tell every one.'

This year we again asked Openview Education to run lessons for Safer Internet Day for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The workshops concentrated on 1) Being kind online 2) Never sharing personal information 3) Who to speak to if you feel unsafe. In our follow up lessons, we are always very impressed with how much key information the children retain from the workshops.

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

In collaboration with parents, we have developed the following padlet which has lots of useful links giving practical advice and information about online safety. If you come across further useful sites and tools, do please let me know, so that these can be added (my email address is at the bottom of this message). ONLINE SAFETY: [Useful Links and Information for Families](#)

We have also have lots of information on our website, which you may find useful to access:

Our Online Safety Policy: <https://minsterinfants.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Online-Safety-Policy.pdf>

Online Safety Area on Website: <https://minsterinfants.co.uk/online-safety/>

Please do contact me if you would like to add anything to our Padlet board, or come across any issues. I always welcome and value suggestions and input from our families!

With best wishes,

Mrs Genny Jones
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