

# Online Safety Monthly Bulletin

## Edition 2

### Parents and Carers



Miss Hyland – Computing Coordinator



#### Online Safety Parent Information - Feedback

On the 12<sup>th</sup> November we were visited by Alan Mackenzie, an online safety specialist. We received excellent feedback from parents who attended.

*"The information given by Alan was very helpful & informative and would strongly encourage other parents to attend such sessions if possible."*

**Year 4 parent**

*"I found the session very informative and incredibly useful. Alan McKenzie was an excellent speaker."*

**Year 5 parent**

#### Parent Online Safety Videos

Alan has kindly provided us with a series of nine parent training videos regarding different areas of online safety. We will be emailing these to you weekly in January. Please set time aside to watch these as they are incredibly useful.

#### What Are Your Children Accessing?

Attached below are some of the key findings from the recent Ofcom Media Report about what children are accessing.

We must consider how we prepare our children for the online world and the impact of them accessing this content too early.

#### Age ratings

All apps and games have a minimum age requirement for a reason. Visit [www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org) to see expert and parent reviews on what age they believe is most appropriate to access: games, film, TV shows, apps, different YouTube channels, websites and more. As well as explanations why.

#### Contact Us

If you have any concerns or questions regarding online safety or your own child's well-being, please email the Whitehall Junior School office on: [office@whitehalljunior.org](mailto:office@whitehalljunior.org)

Visit our parent [Online Safety](#) webpage for previous Online Safety Bulletins and further information.

#### This issue...

- Parent Online Safety Training
- Age ratings

#### Top Tips

- Set up phones, consoles, tablets and computers with parental control settings.
- Have open and honest conversations with your child about what they are accessing and what is acceptable.
- Guide children to appropriate games and activities.
- Follow age rating guidance.  
[Common Sense Media](#)
- Keep up to date with trends through [our newsletter and online safety website page](#).

#### Helpful Links

CEOP – Child Exploitation and Online Protection



Internet Matters



# What Parents & Educators Can Learn from the OFCOM MEDIA REPORT 2024

Each year, Ofcom - the UK's regulatory body for communications - produces an overview of children and parents' media experiences over the course of the previous year. At the time of writing, the latest of these reports, 'Children and parents: media use and attitudes 2024' has just been published, and we've plucked out some of its most thought-provoking findings regarding online safety.

## ONLINE LIVES

**99%**

of 8-17s had regular access to the internet

**65%**

of 13-17s prefer short videos to films and TV

**34%**

experienced harassment or bullying online

**11-18s**

felt more confident communicating online (71%) than in person (53%)

**87%**

of 8-17s felt pressure to be popular on social media

## SCREEN TIME

By children's age group, the percentage of parents who felt less able to manage their child's screentime were ...



## POPULAR PLATFORMS

Most used by children ...

Under-12s

Over-12s

YouTube **89%**

YouTube **88%**

WhatsApp **37%**

WhatsApp **82%**

TikTok **35%**

TikTok **78%**

Snapchat **27%**

Snapchat **73%**

Instagram **22%**

Instagram **69%**

## ONLINE GAMING

**68%** of children played video games online

Who did these children most commonly play with?

**74%** played with someone they know

**32%** played with strangers

## ONLINE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

**93%** 8-17s had at least one lesson about online safety

**93%** of children are aware of at least one thing they can do to stay safe online

**91%** children found these lessons useful

**78%** of 8-17s were aware of age restrictions for apps

**40%** admitted to faking their age to bypass these limits

## PARENTAL CONCERNS

The things that most commonly worry parents and carers about their child being online include ...

**77%** seeing age-inappropriate content

**70%** being harassed or bullied

**68%** seeing pro-self-harm content

**62%** having their data gathered by companies

**59%** being influenced by extreme views

**55%** having their reputation damaged

**51%** being pressured to spend money

## DEVICES MOST USED TO GO ONLINE

Age Group	Device	Percentage
3-4s	use tablets	<b>67%</b>
5-7s	use tablets	<b>77%</b>
8-10s	use tablets	<b>73%</b>
11-15s	use phones	<b>95%</b>
15-17s	use phones	<b>97%</b>

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College