



# MALCOLM SARGENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Love To Learn*

26 November 2018

Dear Parents

## **LATEST INFORMATION FROM ALAN MACKENZIE, ESAFETY ADVISER**

Please see below the latest update from Alan Mackenzie, Esafety Adviser.

### **Bullying Definition**

In many dictionaries, the definition of bullying suggests that a bully is 'one who uses strength or influence to harm or intimidate those who are weak'. Basically, somebody who is bullied is a weak person. Anti-Bullying Pro have successfully campaigned to have this definition changed to 'A person who habitually seeks to harm or intimidate those whom they perceive as vulnerable'. Essentially they have removed the fact that a person being bullied is weak. Well done to Anti-Bullying Pro, a great campaign and a lovely short video to accompany the change which you can see [HERE](#).

### **Social Media Terms and Conditions**

Last year the Children's Commissioner simplified the overly-complicated terms and conditions for some of the more popular social media that children and young people use. Often, talks about social media come from the angle of safeguarding, but you can also target this through understanding privacy and what happens to data when posted online. These T's and C's are a fantastic resource that can be used in many different ways, e.g. a literacy lesson where children can write their own thoughts and ideas, a debate discussing the pro's and cons of 'free' online services and much more. You can download the simplified T's and C's from [HERE](#).

### **Anonymity - BBC OwnIt**

The perception of being anonymous online can lead some people to say or do things online that they wouldn't do face to face. The BBC OwnIt site has some wonderful videos and resources for schools, including a short video called 'Does being anonymous make it easier to be mean?' This is a great little video for primary schools in particular allowing for class discussion, particularly around those all-too-frequent WhatsApp Group fallouts. You can view the video [HERE](#).

### **Young People and Sexting**

What is the prevalence of sending and sharing both solicited and unsolicited nude or nearly nude images or videos? What are the influences and motivations for this behaviour? Understanding the facts and the terminology can really help in school when you're trying to tackle this. The research report is fairly short and a very good read, you can download it [HERE](#).

### **Online Safety Pro:**

The only course of its kind. Full day, in-depth training for your online safety lead **PLUS** 12 months access to fully updated training for all your school staff and governors, **PLUS** half-termly video updates to keep you all right up to date.

### **Parents - Scare or Prepare?**

Should we pass on warnings to parents about specific apps, sites and games, or given them lists of ones to stop children using at all costs? No is the simple answer, for a number of reasons. I couldn't put it better than the wonderful team from London Grid for Learning in a short video [HERE](#).

### **Social Media - the root of all evil?**

Not a day goes by when social media isn't blamed for pretty much everything. I read an article last week which tells us that girls are starting puberty as young as six - because of social media!! If you really want to, you can read the article [HERE](#), but be warned - you will be shouting at your screen!

### **New tool developed to tackle online CSE**

I'm a great believer that the greatest and most powerful tool to help children and young people online is us - human beings. Far too often technical tools are relied upon. However, there are technical tools that can help us and a new one we will hopefully be seeing soon is a tool that can automatically flag conversations between a child and an offender. It's a prototype at the moment but let's hope we start seeing this sooner rather than later. You can read more on the gov.uk website [HERE](#).

### **Consent is everything**

I remember seeing this video a few months ago but for some reason didn't share it with you. The subject of consent is hugely important for everybody to understand, and this short video puts it across in such a simple yet powerful way using a cup of tea. Have a look on the Consent is Everything website [HERE](#).

### **Advertising, body image and social media**

The team at MediaSmart have put together some wonderful resources on their website for primary and secondary schools. The resources are free (you have to register to download) and cover a number of important subjects related to advertising, body image and social media. You can get the teaching resources [HERE](#).

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### **Facebook launches new live streaming app - no privacy settings:**

You will hopefully be aware of TikTok (previously Musically) which allows for short (15 second) live streaming videos and the concerns particularly regarding CSE. Facebook look to be getting in on the action with their own version called Lasso. As I type this the app has just come out in the US; historically that means it will be here in the UK very soon. Concerningly, the app has been reported as having NO privacy settings. Quite what Facebook are thinking is beyond words. If I'm honest I don't think we're going to see much activity, Facebook are really behind the times but as long as you're aware then staff can keep their ears to the ground. For a little more information see [HERE](#).

### **Fortnite scams and the new Call of Duty:**

Fortnite is the most popular game I have ever seen, so it's no surprise to see scams in big numbers. Between September and October this year there were over 53,000 reported scams! Most of these scams are preying on the vulnerability of children when they're searching for V-Bucks (in-game currency) so it's worth having a chat with children and letting parents know. See [HERE](#) for some more information.

**Call of Duty Black Ops 4** was recently released and it has the same player mode as Fortnite (Battle Royale). I haven't had time to have a play yet but my son has (he's over 20). He tells me that the violence/gore is much more than previous versions of COD. I've been to a few primary schools this past couple of weeks and I'm already seeing growing numbers of Y5/6 playing the game. Please re-iterate age ratings to parents. I have spoken to some parents that think the age rating is actually a 'difficulty level.'

### **Children are being 'datafied' from birth:**

The Children's Commissioner has released another fantastic report, this time looking at the concerns about how much data is held on children. The Commissioner is calling on schools to teach children about how their data is held, by whom and for what purposes. It's an interesting report and well worth a read if you have an interest in privacy. See [HERE](#) to download the report.

### **The big myth about teenage anxiety:**

Every day we're bombarded with stories about addiction (social media, gaming, internet in general) or that technology is making our children and young people more anxious. The fact is there is very little real, compelling evidence to prove this. Many will have different opinions, but I think this short article is a very balanced opinion - [HERE](#).

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Lincolnshire - 29th Nov 2018

London - 3rd Dec 2018

Manchester - 10th Dec

More dates coming soon.

**See here for more information:**

<https://www.esafety-adviser.com/onlinesafetypro/>

Best Wishes,

*Alan Mackenzie*

Tel: 01522 25 30 88

Web: [www.esafety-adviser.com](http://www.esafety-adviser.com)

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Liz Town

Business Manager