



22nd April 2022

E-safety Newsletter Summer term

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are so very proud of our pupils at Clarity, they have demonstrated much growth and progress in understanding their virtual and technological world in recent months. And since the focussed workshops delivered by EST E-safety Training for pupils and parents, the pupils have begun to navigate their online social world in a much safer way. We recognise that this can be a very difficult and tricky thing to balance for pupils and for parents, especially when our pupils are just beginning to explore friendships and learn how to manage their social relationships more independently.

We know that for many children the virtual world is a very large part of their social life and their leisure time which we want them to be able to enjoy exploring. We also acknowledge how difficult it is for parents to monitor all of their children's online interactions and activity. However, the advice from The Two Johns has been so helpful in reminding us that the most important way to help our children to be safe online, is to create a culture amongst our young people that encourages them and makes them feel safe to talk about their experiences and concerns online. Let them know, it's okay to talk to us (parents/school staff/safe adults) and tell us what happened, even if they have made a wrong choice; our responses will not be punitive because we are more concerned with ensuring their safety and helping them to manage any worries, concerns or questions that arise for them.

We have received lots of positive feedback from parents following the E-safety workshops. Some of our parents have told us that they are feeling more confident that their children know how to be safe online because they are able to have open and frank discussions with them. This is great news!

If you missed The Two John's workshop or any of the previous e-safety newsletters, please let our admin team know and we will happily forward them on to you.

The parent factsheets I have attached for you this month are:

- Fake news - How can we help our children spot this? This is especially tricky for pupils with Social Communication and understanding difficulties
and
- Roblox - This is a very popular game with children but there are some potential risks that parents should be aware of. The fact sheet provides some useful tips to help you ensure your child can enjoy playing it safely.

If your child has expressed concerns, that you would like advice or support to address, please do not hesitate to let us know; we will be more than happy to support and advise you, or signpost you to further advisory services.

Yours sincerely

Sharyn Ailara, Deputy Head Teacher
BSc (Hons), PGCE, SENDCo Accreditation