



King Henry VIII 3-19 School
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Safer Internet Day will be celebrated on **Tuesday 6th February** this year, with people across the UK working together to promote the importance of safe behaviour online. The theme this year is: **'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'**.

Navigating your child's behaviours online, understanding the different apps they may use, and keeping them safe, is a challenging task for parents and carers in an everchanging online world. Evidence shows that there is a significant rise in young people being exploited online and sharing incident or inappropriate images of themselves in the Gwent area. However, we all recognise that young people will need to use the internet as part of their daily lives, which is why it is important that we help educate them on how to do so safely.

Snapchat appears to be one of the most popular Apps used by young people in our school. Snapchat users should be over 13 according to the developers, however Common Sense Media suggests users should be over 16 years of age. This is because young people can be contacted and sent pictures by people they do not know through the App, and this appears to be a growing trend that is impacting our young people.

There are a number of resources you can access to support your child in safe online behaviours. There are resources and information to access relevant for 3 year old children to 18 year olds.

- Our school website has a [dedicated page for online safety](#), and you can find three newsletters on social media apps and games, gaming and livestreaming, and social media and sharing images
- Hwb has some very helpful resources around [online safety](#) including a comprehensive [app guide for parents and carers](#)
- CEOPs has a [range of resources for parents and carers](#)
- [Common Sense Media](#) is a website that provides clear and simple age recommendations for families on games, films and social media apps
- UK Safer Internet Centre website includes lots of [helpful advice linked to Safer Internet Day](#)

As a school we will be discussing the topic in assemblies and lessons throughout the week commencing 5th February across both primary and secondary phases.

Of course, if you do have any concerns regarding any child's online behaviours, or if you would just like some further advice, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Thank you for your positivity and support,

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Parkinson
Assistant Headteacher