

How can I help? Using the internet safely at home.



Many Internet Service Providers offer filtering systems and tools to help you safeguard your child at home, it remains surprisingly easy for children to access inappropriate material including unsuitable text, pictures and movies. Parents

are advised to set the security levels within Internet Explorer or other browsers with this in mind. Locating the computer in a family area where possible, not a bedroom, will enable you to supervise your son or daughter as they use the Internet. Also consider mobile phones and games consoles and other devices that can access the internet. However, don't deny them the opportunity to learn from and enjoy the wide variety of material and games available on the Internet. Instead discuss with them some simple rules for keeping safe online and making sure they understand their importance.

Social Networking

Social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter are becoming an increasingly popular tool for communication. However, you should carefully consider whether your child is ready to have access to such sites. Facebook guidance suggests that children under the age of 13 should not have their own accounts. If your child does use social networking, you should monitor this use very closely.

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Our E-safety code of Conduct:

Think Then Click



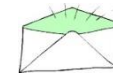
We ask permission before using the Internet.

We only use websites an adult has chosen.



We immediately close any webpage we are not sure about.

We only email people an adult has approved.



We send e-mails that are polite and friendly.

We never give out a home address, phone number or passwords.



We never arrange to meet anyone we don't know.

We do not open e-mails sent by anyone we don't know.



We never use Internet chat rooms.

We tell an adult if we see anything we are uncomfortable with.



Where else can I get advice on E-safety?

There is a fantastic website run by an organisation called CEOP that gives parents support and advice on keeping children safe online.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

The website also allows parents and children to make a report if you are concerned about something you have seen online.

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Information for Parents and Carers on E-Safety



This guide explains:

- ✓ How your children are using ICT in school
- ✓ How ICT can help learning at home.
- ✓ How children can use the Internet safely at home.
- ✓ Where to get further information.

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Keeping safe - E-Safety

Home use of ICT by children:

- ✓ improves their ICT skills
- ✓ offers them choice in what they learn and how they learn it
- ✓ supports homework and revision
- ✓ improves the presentation of their work
- ✓ connects learning at school with learning at home makes learning more fun

Computers and technology offer our children fantastic opportunities but at Mengham Junior School we recognise that they also bring with them some risk. We work hard as a staff to ensure your children know how to use technology safely by:

- ✓ Having our **Think Then Click** code of conduct for using computers and technology that all children sign up to. This is displayed clearly around school.
- ✓ Having an acceptable use policy which we ask all staff and Governors to sign.
- ✓ Actively teaching children how to use technology safely.
- ✓ Regularly reminding children about E-Safety through assemblies
- ✓ Inviting guest speakers into school to talk to the children about staying safe both online in and outside of school
- ✓ Taking part in the national Safer Internet Day each year.

How does your child use ICT at Mengham Junior School?

- ✓ **Word Processing** to write stories, poems or letters
- ✓ **Databases** to record information, e.g. minibeasts
- ✓ **Spreadsheets** to create tables, charts and graphs
- ✓ **Desktop Publishing** to design posters, leaflets or cards
- ✓ **Multimedia Presentation** to present text, pictures, sound and video
- ✓ **Drawing Programs** to create pictures and designs
- ✓ **Internet** to find information
- ✓ **Blogging** to share news on our website
- ✓ **Digital Cameras** to record what they have done in class or on a visit
- ✓ **Video Camera and Green Screen** for filming and presenting work
- ✓ **Electronic Sensors** to record changes in light, sound and temperature
- ✓ **Controllable Robots** to give instructions and make something happen
- ✓ **Simulations** to explore real and imaginary situations
- ✓ **Website Publishing** to present ideas over the Internet



How can I help? Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying takes place using technology. Whether on gaming sites, through mobile phones or through social networking sites, the effects can be devastating for the young people involved.

If you or your child are concerned that they may be being cyber bullied, you can:

- ✓ Make a complaint directly to the police
- ✓ Monitor your child's access to technology.

The "Thinkuknow" website offers lots of advice for parents about helping to protect children when using computers and the internet:

- ✓ Talk to your child about what they're up to online.
- ✓ Watch Thinkuknow films and cartoons with your child.
- ✓ Encourage your child to go online and explore!
- ✓ Keep up-to-date with your child's development online.
- ✓ Set boundaries in the online world just as you would in the real world.
- ✓ Keep all equipment that connects to the internet in a family space.
- ✓ Know what connects to the internet and how.
- ✓ Use parental controls on devices that link to the internet, such as the TV, laptops, computers, games consoles and mobile phones.

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