



Online Safety

Online safety is an important part of keeping children safe at St Thomas C of E Primary School. We have extensive security measures in place in school to help safeguard pupils from potential dangers or unsuitable material. Online Safety is taught to all pupils explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online.

We can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with parents to ensure that online messages are consistent. It is important that parents speak to their children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online.

It's essential to be realistic - banning the internet or technology will not work and it often makes a child less likely to report a problem. Education around safe use is essential.

St Thomas Schools Web Filtering System

In school we use an online filtering system. Each week the head teacher receives a report that where necessary, will highlight any inappropriate searches, inappropriate websites and which machines attempted to access these sites and when. From time to time the safeguarding team will perform their own searches which they know would be flagged up via the filtering system to check that it is functioning appropriately and is keeping our children as safe as possible. We recognise that homes do not have this level of filtering in place which is why it is incredibly important that parents know what their children are accessing and when. Below is more information on our school website for parents on keeping children safe when online.

<https://www.stthomasblackburn.org.uk/parents/online-safety/>

More useful addresses

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>