St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School

Welcome to this week's SMRT safeguarding update…

WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

Safer Internet Day 2025

On Tuesday next week it is the UK Safer Internet Day. This is a week where there will be tutor time quizzes and discussions around staying safe on the internet with this year's theme being: 'Too good to be true!?'

Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year the UK Safer Internet Centre cover an online issue or theme that speaks about the things young people are seeing and experiencing online. Created in consultation with young people across the UK, this year Safer Internet Day will be focusing on the issue of scams online and for young people, how to protect themselves and others, as well as what support is available to them.

We'll build on the important work being done to raise awareness of issues such as online financial sextortion and we'll also consider the future of scams, answering questions such as:

- How is changing technology like generative AI going to impact the approach of scammers?

- What role can the government and internet industry take to tackle this threat?

- And what changes would young people like to see to help protect themselves moving forward?

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees thousands of organisations get involved to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

At SMRT, we continue to use our VIP curriculum, pastoral curriculum, IT lessons, Assemblies, visiting speakers and Parent/Carer safeguarding updates to educate and inform young people and families about the risks and trends that may be affecting young people online.

Too good to be true?

Protecting yourself and others from scams online

Top Tips for Parents and Carers

This Safer Internet Day we are starting a conversation about how to spot, respond to and report all types of scams online. Scams can take many forms and may target anyone, including young people. Use these top tips to keep you and your loved ones safe online.

Enjoy going online together and talk regularly about your family's online lives

The internet is amazing and can help us all to access information and entertainment. Spend time online with your child to understand how they are using technology and talk together about the good and the bad parts of being online. Talk about your own experiences and find other opportunities to get the conversation started, like stories in the news. Make sure your child knows they can talk to you about anything that they see or experience online.

Take online security measures seriously

The internet can be a tool used by criminals to target their victims, but a few simple steps can help keep you and your accounts secure. Use strong and separate passwords for online accounts and set up two step verification (2SV) where it's available. You may also be able to set parental controls to prevent unwanted online purchases and limit children's access to harmful content.

Look out for warning signs that someone or something online cannot be trusted

"It just seems too good to be true!" – Other common signs of a scam include contact that you weren't expecting or being asked for money or personal information (think: bank or contact details, passwords, or phone numbers). Scammers use other tactics to manipulate their victims into paying, like playing with your emotions, or building a sense of urgency so you are rushed into making a decision. If you aren't sure it's reliable, don't risk it.

Remember that anyone can be a victim of a scam

Scammers are good at what they do and will target anyone. We all need to stay vigilant and support those who are most vulnerable including children and the elderly by helping them recognise what to look out for. If anyone in your family has been scammed, talk openly about it. There should be no shame in being victim to a scam and it's never your fault.

Know where to get help if something goes wrong

If you or someone you know has been the victim of a scam online, you're not on your own. Help is available and you are not to blame for what has happened. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, you can report fraud and cybercrime online to Action Fraud or by telephoning 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, report to Police Scotland by calling 101. You may also be able to report via social media, if the scam has taken place there or to another relevant organisation, like your bank, if you think your account is at risk.
Remember, if you or anyone else is in immediate danger, call 999 immediately.

==Where can I report?==

A law enforcement agency working to help keep children safe from online harms.
ceop.police.uk

REPORT REMOVE
Nude image of you online? We can help take it down.

Run by Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation for young people under 18 in the UK to report sexual images and videos of themselves to try to remove them from the internet, plus access to counselling and support. **childline.org.uk/remove**

Take It Down

A service that can help you remove or stop the online sharing of nudes taken before you were 18. **takeitdown.ncmec.org**

REPORT HARMFUL CONTENT

Advice on how to contact and make a report to major social media platforms. **reportharmfulcontent.com**

CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE 101
IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999

A way of contacting the local police in a non-emergency situation. **police.uk/pu/contact-us**

As always, if you have any immediate concerns about safeguarding issues, students, or the school site, please get in touch via:

safeguarding@smrt.bristol.sch.uk