



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Safeguarding Newsletter

April 2023

The Safeguarding team. If you have any concerns about a child's welfare or safety, please speak to a member of the schools safeguarding team



Miss Queenan



Miss Jennings



Mrs Seaman



Mrs Cawsey

Dear Parents,

In school we are teaching the children how to keep themselves and others safe. Using stories and age appropriate language, we explain to the children that their body belongs to them and that they must take care of it. In line with the teaching of the Catholic church, the children are aware of how they are created in God's image and that their body is a special gift from God. We think about how a healthy lifestyle and keeping clean helps us to care for our bodies and how we wear swimsuits to cover the parts of our body that are private to us.

We also begin to explore the concept of consent. We do this in an age appropriate way thinking about how we can consent to play a game, have their photograph taken or consent to give someone a hug. Our spotlight on feature in today's newsletter focuses on how you can support your pupil to understand about consent.

As ever, if you would like to discuss anything further, please do get in touch .

Mrs Seaman

Headteacher

Spotlight on: Consent



Consent means giving someone a choice about touch or actions and respecting their answer. With children, we often use the language "asking for permission."

At this age, we want to lay the foundation for setting boundaries, making decisions, asking for permission, and responding appropriately when someone says no to them.

Besides consent, children need to learn that they can set boundaries and limits on when and how their bodies are touched and by whom. This can be a hug, a tickle or holding hands.

Conversations around consent should be ongoing. Here's how you can incorporate consent into everyday conversations with your child.

Ways to ask your child for consent:

- "Do you want a hug goodbye today? We could also wave or high five."
- "Can I sit beside you while we read this book?"
- "Can I tell your teacher about your news?"

Ways to model consent:

- "Do you need a break from tickling, or are tickles still okay with you?"
- "It's OK if you don't want a goodnight hug."
- "Can I help you put your jacket on?"

Ways to teach your child to ask for consent with other children:

- "Do you want to play with the red or the blue car?"
- "Do you want to hold hands when we walk to lunch?"
- "Can I sit next to you on the bus?"

This months online safety



Steps to take to help your child stay safe online

Have an ongoing conversation: Continue to talk about the apps, games and sites they like to use, and what they like and don't like and any concerns about being online. Discuss with them when to unfollow, block or report.

For help starting this conversation, follow the link:

[https:// saferinternet.org.uk/blog/having-an-open-and-honest-conversation-about-online-safety-5-questions-for-parents](https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/having-an-open-and-honest-conversation-about-online-safety-5-questions-for-parents)

Make sure they know where to go for support: Remind your child they can always speak to you or an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried or upset. Remind them that they won't be in trouble at that you are there to help.

Useful online safety websites for parents

National Online Safety - safety guides on ALL aspects of internet use

[https:// nationalonlinesafety.com/](https://nationalonlinesafety.com/)

Internet Matters - wide range of online safety advice for parents to keep their children safe online.

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of YouTube which offers a colourful and easy-to-navigate environment that's suitable for young children. This app is easily accessible and available for mobile devices, which can be downloaded without needing the YouTube app on the device. Despite YouTube Kids seeming like a very child-friendly platform, it has raised concerns over its advertising and inappropriate content seeping through the curation process.

SETTING UP

1 Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your own YouTube channel.

2 Input your child's name, age and birth month.

3 Select the types of videos you want to include for your child based on their age and your own personal choice.

4 If you decide to approve the content yourself, the app will present you with sample videos for you to accept and reject.

5 Once you've made your choice, you're ready to use the app!

Advice for Parents & Carers

REMOVE ADVERTISEMENTS

Like YouTube, adverts on YouTube Kids are also quite pervasive. If you decide you don't want your child being exposed to adverts, you can subscribe to YouTube Premium which will remove adverts on YouTube Kids. However, it's worth remembering that this doesn't block adverts that content creators decide to make as part of their content, and children are still able to access channels from branded fast food or toy companies.

BE WARY OF UNSUITABLE CONTENT

YouTube Kids has a far lower chance of showing unsuitable material than YouTube, but there are still reports of malicious users deliberately uploading inappropriate content. It's important that your child feels able to talk to you if they were ever exposed to upsetting content in the future. It's also safest to report inappropriate videos: tap the three dots in the corner of the video and select 'Report'.

DISABLE SEARCH OPTION

YouTube Kids allows you to disable the search feature, which you may find useful in preventing your child from unintentionally finding age-inappropriate content. Doing this will also give you more control over what your child is watching. It's also worth noting that setting an age limit will ensure that your child is only exposed to recommended videos that are deemed suitable for their age group.

RESTRICT VIEWING TIME

The YouTube Kids app provides you with the option of setting up a timer to monitor and limit your child's daily usage, which automatically stops the video when it reaches the set time. It may be best to make use of this feature to prevent screen addiction - which can potentially lead to children staying up too late, affecting their mood and concentration the following day.

MONITOR WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has also made it possible for parents and carers to see what their children are watching on the app by clicking on the 'Recommended' icon on the top right of the home screen. It may also be worth having a look at what your child has recently watched by clicking on their history tab. The red bar on the video shows how much of the video has been watched.

WATCH TOGETHER

It's important to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for your child. This may require spending time finding channels and content that you and your child will enjoy and benefit from. Try introducing family sessions where you can share the most enjoyable videos that you and your child have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you and your child many new things to talk about with each other.

Meet Our Expert

Claire Dodwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday