# PGHS Online Safety Newsletter Autumn Term 1

## **COMPUTING CURRICULUM**

We wanted to inform parents about the content of the computing curriculum now we are at the start of the new academic year. Although we are now having a more normal school experience, in school we are aware that more students are spending more time on their mobile devices. Students are increasingly online due to the current climate and are being exposed to a variety of new online tools. It is our responsibility to teach them how to stay safe and what is acceptable use on the software and Apps around today. During Key Stage 3 Computing lessons we deliver a range of online safety lessons and this is expanding with the introduction of an online safety qualification that will be delivered to Year 9 students.

Key Stage 3 online safety curriculum involves the students learning:

- About cyberbullying, the impact of cyberbullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report cyberbullying, and how and where to seek help.
- About online risks, including that material shared with another person has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online.
- Not to provide material to others that they would not want to be shared further and not to share personal material which they receive.
- About malware and how to protect devices from malware
- About the use of email and other online platforms, for example, TEAMs and Zoom, and what is acceptable use when using these for school purposes.

- The use of the internet and how they know whether they can trust the information they see online and how they can identify reliable information.
- About online identity and why people act differently online to the real world.
   The impact of viewing harmful content.
- That specifically sexually explicit material, e.g. pornography, presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others, and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners.
- How information and data are generated, collected, shared, and used online.
- The similarities and differences between the online world and the physical world, including how information is targeted at them and how to be a discerning consumer of information online.
- How to identify harmful behaviours online and how to report, or find support, if they have been affected by harmful online behaviours.

Each year we take part in Internet Safer Day, this year was delivered to both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 through assemblies and work delivered through Life Skills lessons and also Computing lessons at Key Stage 3. The theme for this year's Internet Safer Day was about the reliability of the online world. The students learned about how they can know what information online they can trust and how to identify untrustworthy information.

They also learned about online identity, and why people act differently in online situations to what they in real-world scenarios. We are in the process of introducing an online safety qualification to selected Year 9 students, this is Smart Award in E-Safety. The qualification is designed to cover the main concepts and skills needed to use devices and applications securely, safely, and effectively. The Smart Digital Award in E-Safety gives students the skills they need to use devices correctly, understand how to find and analyse information critically, communicate safely and appropriately with others, and explore their potential through creation and collaboration. We are hoping to deliver this to all Year 9 during the next academic year.

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We also like to learn about the positives of online social media Apps and we have recently been given the special opportunity to work alongside Snap Inc. 's creative team and a creator for Disney in an introduction to augmented reality and created their own lens (filter). The workshop focused on using a snapchat lens to promote empathy and understanding others. These girls will also be sharing their expertise with the wider school council so that they can work collaboratively and use social media to promote the school's core values such as social responsibility and compassion.

If you would like any further information you can access the scheme of work on the curriculum pages of the school website or alternatively please email me at

j.bennett@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk

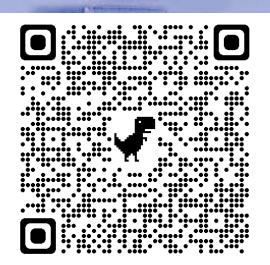
### **SCREEN TIME**

To help change the way that we look at and manage children's screen time there is an interesting article from Ineqe the developers of the Safer Schools App, to read more about screen time click here

https://ineqe.com/2021/07/09/down-the-devices-how-to-develop-healthy-habits-on-screen-time/

# **Reminder on Parent Control settings**

https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice centre/parents-and-carers/parental-controlsoffered-your-home-internet-provider



# Worried about online abuse? Go to CEOP

**CEOP** stands for the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command. They are part of the police who investigate and deal with cases of online grooming.

https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/

