St Francis' Catholic Primary School

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Ensuring an excellent child-centred education within a Christ centred philosophy

E-Safety Newsletter

Term 1

Dear Parent/Carer,

We all know that the internet can be a great help in education – and indeed we often use it at school. The online world is a wonderful place for young people to explore, with unprecedented opportunities for learning and creativity, but just like the real world there are risks and dangers they should be aware of and which we should all act to protect them from. As a school we encourage the use of technology as an important part of our students' development but always want them to spend their time online safely.

As a parent/carer you can play a significant part in ensuring online safety. As the academic year progresses, we will send home a series of E-Safety newsletters designed not only to increase parental awareness, but also to give some simple guidance in creating a safe online environment at home. Just a few simple steps by you can help keep your children safe and give them the awareness to know what to do if they feel uncomfortable about anything they encounter while on the internet.

Inside:
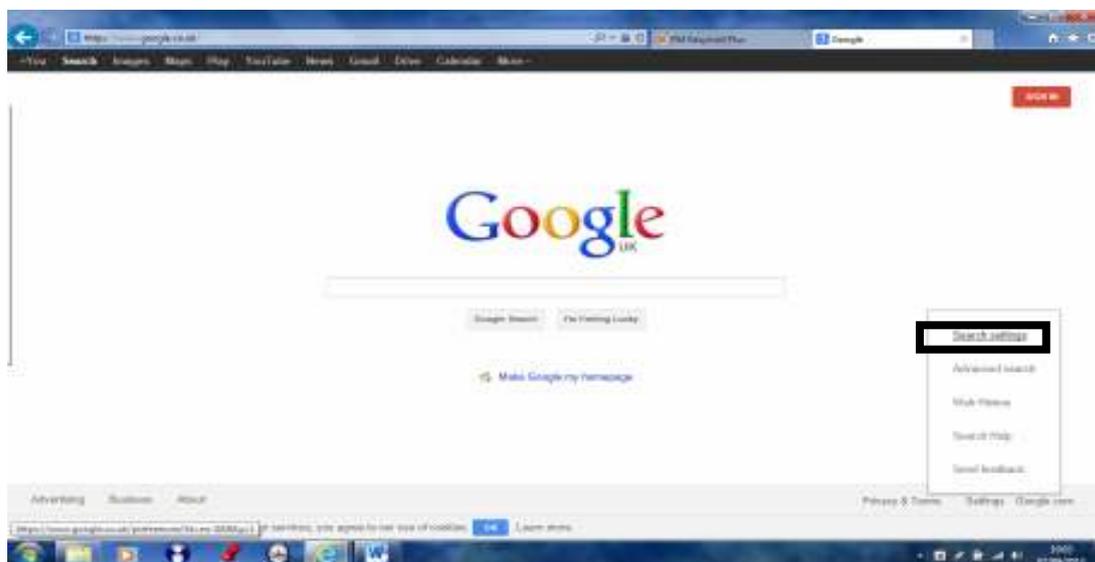**Parental Controls, Safety Buttons and Guidelines for Safe Internet Use**

Parental Controls - Internet

If you do not wish for your child to be able to access any inappropriate content online, please ensure that their computers, laptops and other devices with internet access are all fitted with parental controls. You can find free downloadable versions online or you can contact your internet service provider (such as BT, Talk Talk, Sky) for more information.
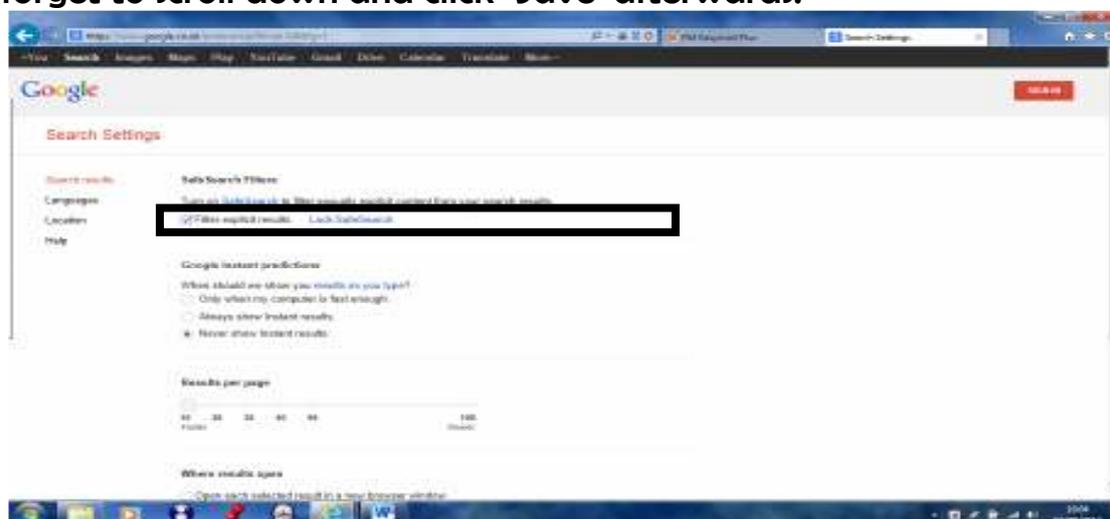
As a **minimum**, please set parental controls on your search engines, youtube account and the mobile phone your child uses. One of the most popular search engines in the world is Google. You can visit Google's informative safety centre for **simple** step by step guides –
http://www.google.co.uk/goodtoknow/familysafety/ Here are a few options available to you; they truly are simple to set:

Visit the Google home page – www.google.co.uk and click on 'Settings' and then 'Search Settings' in the bottom right hand corner.

Turn on the SafeSearch filters by ticking the 'Filter explicit results' box. Don't forget to scroll down and click 'Save' afterwards.

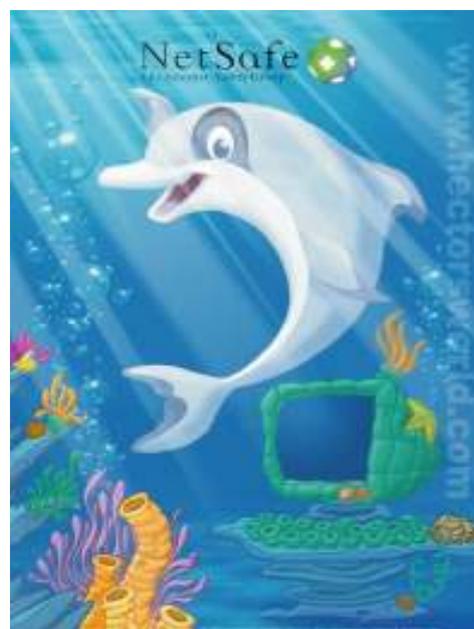You can also set this on your child's smart phone;

SafeSearch on your phone

SafeSearch is accessible on your mobile device by using the browser to access the Google homepage. Choose settings located at the bottom of the screen and you'll see the option to select Strict, Moderate or to turn SafeSearch off completely.

Safety Buttons

Please be aware that no filter is 100% accurate. In school we use a downloadable safety button called 'Hector the Protector'. Hector appears as a dolphin character, swimming in the top right hand corner of the screen. Should the children see something confusing/scary/inappropriate then they can click on Hector to cover the screen while they go and ask a teacher for help. This is easily downloadable for use at home and can be found at:
http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/hectorsworld/Hectors-World-Safety-Button1/

I hope this information has been useful. You can expect further letters over the year looking at areas such as 'Cyberbullying', 'Grooming' and inappropriate websites. Also, keep your eyes peeled for the E-Safety Parents Information Evening later in the year. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to speak to members of staff if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

S Groves

Overleaf:

School Internet Guidelines for Safe Internet Use:
Key Stage One and Key Stage Two

KS2 Guidelines for Responsible Internet Use

Our School has installed computers and Internet access to help our learning.

These rules will keep everyone safe and help us to be fair to others.

- I must only use the Internet when an adult supervises me.
- If I find anything I'm uncomfortable with I will click on 'Hector the Protector' and tell the adult in charge.
- I will only e-mail people I know, or that my teacher has approved.
- The messages I send will be polite and responsible.
- I will not give out personal information or passwords.
- I will not arrange to meet anyone I don't know.
- I will not go on internet chat rooms or social networking sites.
- I will only use my own username and password and will not access other people's work without permission.

Any person abusing these guidelines will be denied free access to the I.C.T room for a specified period of time, and parents will be contacted.

KS1 Guidelines for Responsible Internet Use

Think then Click
These rules help us to stay safe on the Internet

We only use the internet when an adult is with us

We can click on the buttons or links when we know what they do.

We can click on Hector when we see something we don't like.

We always ask if we get lost on the Internet.

We can send and open emails together.

We can write polite and friendly emails to people that we know.