

Staplehurst School



Welcome to the Inclusion Team

Autumn Newsletter



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This term we're covering the hot topic of **e-safety**.

We are noticing as a school that more and more children are having an inappropriate level of access to social media websites. We have also been made aware that some children have accounts of their own on Facebook and YouTube. This is of particular concern as it can invite risk and potential harm to the child(ren) involved. It is very hard, as a parent/carer to 'keep up' with the technological world that our children live in but we would strongly urge all parents to follow just a few simple rules:

1. Do not allow any child under the age of 13 to have an account of their own on **any** social media platform.
NB: You must be over 18 to have a YouTube account (13 with parent permission). You must be 13 to have a Facebook, Twitter or Snapchat account. If we are aware of issues relating to children having social media accounts below the appropriate age we will deem it necessary to follow current guidance and close the account down.
2. Never allow your child to be videoed or photographed by another person in any identifiable clothing e.g school uniform, cub uniform, named t-shirts etc, unless you are sure it will not be uploaded to social media. Never name the child on any photos.
3. Always make sure the appropriate level of 'blocks' are on all home devices so your child is less able to access unsuitable content.
4. Try to be a visible presence when your child is on-line and deter them from using devices unsupervised, for example in their bedroom.
5. Talk to us! If you have ANY concerns about the material your child is watching or anything they have done/said/seen on-line please do talk to us. We have a wealth of information and support which we can offer to you.

We really are here to help you and your child so please call on us if needed.