



Digital Natives

Did you know that the Internet is now over 25 years old?

There is no doubt that even over the past decade, technology and the Internet have revolutionised how we learn, communicate and share information. The world that our children are currently growing up in is very different to our own, and will have changed again over the next decade. *'Digital Natives'* is a term which was created to describe the children of today; because they have grown up surrounded by and using technology, it is almost an extension of themselves.

What can we do?

As adults, it can be scary when we feel that children know more about something than we do. This is why it is important that we educate ourselves; just like we teach children to cross the road safely, we must teach them to use the Internet safely.

See our *'Steps to success'* on what you can do at home with your child...

Steps to success

1. Educate yourself

Go on to Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Snapchat and Instagram and investigate it for yourself. See what these social media tools can do and how to set Privacy settings.



2. Talk to your children

Talk to your children about what they should and shouldn't do; we use the S.M.A.R.T system at Valence to discuss Internet safety - you could use this as a starting point. Explain to children that their Digital Footprint remains online forever and what to do if they see something that upsets them online.



3. Monitor

Engage with your children about what they do online. As far as possible, younger children should be supervised when online and use the Internet in a family area. As children get older they may want more privacy but make sure you keep the lines of communication open.



4. Protect

Check that you have filtering in place on your Internet; this will block unsuitable content - some are free, but others you can buy. Be aware that filtering is not 100% effective and it is still important to educate our children.



5. Ask

If there is anything that you are unsure of, use the resources on the school's website or ask for further advice or support from staff.

Dear Parents, Carers and Responsible Adults of
Valence Primary School,

I have created this guide to give some helpful tips and direct you to useful resources about E-Safety. By working together at school and at home, we can ensure that our children enjoy the benefits of the Internet and technologies whilst keeping safe.

Many Thanks,
Mr Marshall

What is E-Safety?



'E-Safety' means keeping children safe when using the Internet and other digital technologies. Whilst it has introduced new risks such as cyber-bullying, accessing adult content and the negative impact of social media; being 'online' has provided new ways of learning, having fun and communicating. The Internet and technology are fantastic resources, which we must educate our children to use appropriately.

References:

- <http://www.schooljotter.com/imagefolders/hatton/galleryImages/smart.jpg>
- http://cdn.toptenreviews.com/rev/site/cms/category_headers/55-h_main-w.png
- http://www.rm.com/_rmvirtual/media/downloads/e-safety-parents-guide.pdf

Useful websites and resources

Below are a list of links, all of which provide advice and guidance about what you can do at home to keep children safe when using the Internet.

- www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers
- www.kidsmart.org.uk/parents
- www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

School Website

All of the above links can be found on our school website, as well as other useful documents :



www.valenceprimaryschool.com

1. Go to the school's website
2. Click on the 'Parents' tab (on the left hand side)
3. Click on 'E-Safety'

Any questions?

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff for further advice.

Valence Primary School



E-Safety: A guide for mums, dads and carers.