

The Oval School
COVID-19 Online Safety Policy Amendment

Online Safety in school

The Oval School will continue to provide a safe, online environment for pupils in school which includes the use of an online filtering system. Where students are using computers in school, appropriate supervision will continue to be in place.

Online Safety at home

The Oval School recognises that whilst more children return to school, others will continue to stay at home and, in many cases, may use technology to support their learning. When teaching staff set online work, such as daily times table practice on Times Table Rock Star and comprehension quizzes on Accelerated Reader, we will continue to ensure that any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirement. Staff will continue to communicate and set challenges through the ClassDojo app. This app remains as an online resource and communication tool for parents only. Parents are responsible for the monitoring and use of this app away from school.

Parent support

Many pupils are spending more time online and expanding the ways they use the internet to communicate with others. Some pupils may be using apps and games such as TikTok, Fortnite, Roblox, Youtube and Snapchat which are not age appropriate resulting in them being exposed to online risks. Therefore, it is vital that parents/carers regularly talk to their child about online safety and the importance of adhering to set rules. It is important that all staff members who communicate with pupils and parents continue to look out for signs that a child may be at risk. Any such concerns should be dealt with as per the Child Protection and Safeguarding policy.

The Oval School will continue to reinforce the importance of children staying safe online by providing regular parental tips and updates on the risks of popular apps and games. To help parents to understand and tackle the risks all children face online, they should visit the below links or contact the school office for further advice.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/2020/may/online-safety-during-coronavirus>

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/globalassets/professional/thinkuknow_primary_parents_helpsheet.pdf

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>