



Evelyn Street, SE8 5RJ
Tel: 020 8692 4351

E-Mail: info@deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk
Web: www.deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk

9th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

IMPORTANT ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION – USING APPS

It has been brought to our attention that there have been several issues outside of school with Year 6 children on Snapchat. Please can we remind you that children should NOT be using sites such as Snapchat. You may be aware of a number of cases in the media where children have been targeted and groomed via such platforms, we advise you to **delete** these apps from your child's phone.

At school we take the safety of our children very seriously. This includes whilst they access the internet at **HOME** and on their **MOBILE devices**. It has come to our attention that there are children in KS2 who are regularly using social media sites such as WhatsApp, TikTok and Instagram. **Most Social Media age guidance is at least 13 years old, with many apps including WhatsApp being 16 years old. This means that children of primary school age should not be using them.**

With that in mind, we are sharing with you some **IMPORTANT TOP TIPS** to help you as you guide your children at home. Overleaf, you can find age restriction guidance for popular apps and websites.

TOP E-SAFETY TIPS:

1. Have ongoing **CONVERSATIONS** with your children about what games and sites they are using on the computer and or their mobile devices.
 - **WHO** your child is talking to?
 - **WHAT** are they doing?
 - **WHERE** are they going online?
2. Use **SAFETY TOOLS** for online services, e.g. privacy settings and **PARENTAL CONTROLS**;
3. Set **RULES** at home which may include a **TIME LIMIT** spent online on a computer or a mobile device, and using a **DESIGNATED FAMILY AREA** for online usage e.g. the living room under supervision and **NOT** your child's bedroom.

Some great information about keeping your child safe online can be found at: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>, <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/social-media-guides> and <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>. You can find links to these sites on our website.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online.

Yours Sincerely,

Ken Johnson & Leona Baffour

Co Head Teacher: Ken Johnson
Co Head Teacher: Leona Baffour

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites, apps and games?



7

Roblox

12

Fortnite

13

Twitter
Facebook
Instagram
Pinterest
Reddit
Snapchat
TikTok
WeChat
YouTube
Wink

16

LinkedIn
Flickr
WhatsApp
Tumblr

Ages specified by PEGI, platform user agreements or platform terms of service as of 27th July 2022.



twinkl