

# Safeguarding Bulletin

## Staying Safe Online

The internet and online world is a valuable resource for all ages, it helps people stay in touch, provides a learning environment and has become a way to enjoy spare time. However, there are times when it can be so immersive that you can let your guard down, it is important to understand how to stay safe online by educating yourself and keeping up to date on security.

As the internet is huge and can be difficult to police and monitor there are some parts of the internet where you may come across issues that make you feel uncomfortable or illegal, be wary if you:

- Are asked to post personal information that can identify you
- Are asked to do illegal or age-inappropriate things with strangers
- Are being asked to bully others or join in some campaign of hate led by others
- See racist or hateful material
- Know you are viewing inappropriate or harmful content
- Talking with others online who encourage self-harm

This list is not exhaustive but provides some of the main areas where the internet can be harmful.

### Tips to stay safe

**Think** and don't post identifying information online or give out passwords or log in details

**Think** before you post, once you post something, you lose control of it

**Think** about who you're talking to

**Think** is it a phishing, scam, or catfish

### Online Gaming, Livestreams and esports

**Online games** like Fortnite and Roblox allows you play with friends and strangers around the world, make sure you stay safe by following the tips as it can be risky.

**Livestreaming** is a popular way to communicate with your friends and wider community but come with risks. Remember that they can't be edited, and you can't erase what people have already seen.

**Esports** is online gaming often in a form of an organised competition for prize money, however children often spend hours practicing and may suffer fatigue which in turn often lowers awareness of what might be risky behaviour.

Remember: online friends are not the same as real ones.

**Recognise** that a child or adult at risk is being harmed or might be at risk of harm

**Respond** appropriately if a child or adult tells you something that is concerning

**Report** the concern to your line manager and/or Safeguarding Lead.

**Record** the concerns and the actions you have taken

### Sources of support:

[Thinkuknow](#)

[Childline](#)

You witness an incident or come upon information which raises concerns about the safety and/or welfare of a Child or Adult at Risk, or an individual's actions or behaviour towards a Child or Adult at Risk

**Think:** Is there an immediate serious risk to the Child or Adult at Risk or are they in need of urgent medical treatment – if you are not sure speak to a line manager

#### YES

- Contact the emergency services by calling 999
- Preserve any evidence
- In the case of a child, inform the parent/legal guardian, unless doing so would put the child, yourself or others at risk
- In the case of an adult where possible and if safe to do so, let the adult know what you are doing
- Record the information on a Birmingham 2022 Safeguarding Report Form via the notification system

#### NO

- Speak to the Safeguarding Lead or Safeguarding Officer within venue to seek advice
- Record the information on a Birmingham 2022 Safeguarding Report Form via the notification system (on The Foundry)
- The notification will be triaged, assessed by the team and a decision made on how to progress