

Online Safety Newsletter

March 2022 – Parents



Free support for online safety

To access all the online safety resources please sign up (using the link below) or download the free National Online Safety app. <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/two-rivers-high-school>



Things we want parents and carers to be aware of:

- 55% of 12–15-year old's said they have had a negative online experience. OFCOM
- 80% of young people have seen something hateful aimed at a particular group in the last year CHILDNET
- 56% of young people have chatted with others they do not know, within an online game, over the past year. UK SAFER INTERNET CENTRE

Our pupils were asked to complete an Online Safety Survey, and this is what we discovered.

**Our pupils have told us they are using the following Apps and platforms:
TOP 6 apps include –**



YouTube, Instagram, Messenger, Tik Tok, Snapchat and WhatsApp.

Other apps include (not inclusive); Google, Discord, Netflix, Games- Minecraft, FIFA, Amongus, twitter, Omeagle, eBay, VR apps, facetime, Roblox, Spotify, happy bird, Avalife, Amazon, house party, zoom, party chat, fortnight, Minecraft.

We have downloaded the National Online Safety Parent/ Carer Guides for you. These guides explain why our pupils enjoy using the games and apps. They also explain the associated risks and how to keep our pupils safe.

These can be accessed via

- 1) the National Online Safety Site (which you can access for free – subscription link above)
- 2) Our website [Online Safety Support - Two Rivers Federation \(tworiversschool.net\)](https://tworiversschool.net)
- 3) weduc under Digital Library 'Online Safety Support'

When we asked pupils what they do online. We discovered that over half (in some cases the majority) were searching, watching, listening to, gaming and communicating online. While a few are sharing information including uploading videos.

The main risks associated with online use:

1. cyberbullying (bullying using digital technology)
2. the presence of strangers who may be there to 'groom' other members
3. your child seeing offensive images and messages
4. being encouraged to share nude or semi-nude pictures
5. invasion of privacy/ identity theft
6. making in-app purchases

What we suggest you do



Find out what your child is using.
Talk to them about it. Why do they like it? Look together.
Don't be shocked and angry if you see something you do not like. Instead explain to them why you do not like it. Explain what the risks are.
Ask your child what would you do if...?
Encourage them to talk to a trusted adult. Explain what they should do if something doesn't feel right.

If you have any concern's you can speak to Derek (Designated Safeguard Lead) or Mrs. Dryhurst (Online Safety Lead) for further support and guidance.



<https://www.security.org/how-secure-is-my-password/>

Check how secure your own password is using this free, safe and secure website.