

Ladybrook E-Safety Newsletter

After the success of our Internet safety evening, I have decided to produce a newsletter for parents and children about the importance of e-safety at home.

As technology advances and the popularity of social media sites increases it is important to keep ourselves and our families safe online. At Ladybrook we have already had incidents of internet bullying, inappropriate texting and children playing computer games that really are not suitable for their age range.

As a school we want to ensure all of our pupils are safe when they are using the internet. The internet is a fantastic place but it can also expose us to inappropriate pictures or videos, online bullies and strangers.

If you would like to know more about keeping your children safe online you will find links on our school website to useful web pages that support e-safety. They also include advice on social media websites for parents. I have also included some useful links to resources in this newsletter.

As Christmas is fast approaching and some children may be receiving technological gifts, there is also a parental contract idea which may help use of mobile devices in the home.



Are you aware of the **'Digital Parenting'** magazine? This is available to download at <https://parentzone.org.uk/projects/digital-parenting-magazine>

The magazine includes advice from teachers, parents and online safety experts on subjects ranging from Virtual Reality to Snapchat. We have tips from online safety experts, parents and children themselves.

You can also download any previous issues.

Has your child got a mobile device?

Do you always know what they are doing or watching online?

Does your child use their device at night?

Having an agreed mobile phone contract between you and your child could create an open line of communication between you regarding their mobile device.

The aim is to help your child become a well rounded person who can coexist with technology, NOT be ruled by it.

There is a copy of a contract on our school website, it can be found here:

<http://www.ladybrook.stockport.sch.uk/internet-safety/>

You could work with your child to set the ground rules for using their mobile device safely.

You could also lead by example, encouraging good practice.



Is there an age limit for children on social media?

Most social media services and apps require users to be 13 years old to join.

Why 13? This is usually to comply with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (COPPA)—a US law preventing the collection and storage of personal information from a child under 13.

The attached table shows the age ratings for popular apps.

Social Media	Terms of Use – Minimum Age Requirements	App Store Rating	Google Play Rating
ASK.fm	13+	12+	12+
Club Penguin	6-14	4+	G - General
EA (Electronic Arts)	18+ (with parental permission up to 17 yrs.)	n/a	G - general
Facebook	13+	4+	12+
Facebook Messenger	13+	4+	3+
Flickr	13+	12+	12+
Foursquare	13+	4+	12+
Google+	13+	17+	12+
Instagram	13+	12+	12+
Keek	13+ (with parental permission up to 17 yrs)	12+	12+
Kik	13+ (with parental permission up to 17 yrs)	12+	12+
Linkedin	14+	4+	3+
Minecraft	All ages (parental permission required to create a mojang account if user is under 13 yrs)	n/a	M – Mature (Pocket Edition)
Moshi Monsters	All ages (Directed at 6 – 12 year olds. If user is under 13, parent’s email is required)	4+	G - General
Pinterest	13+	12+	12+
Skype	18+ (With parental permission up to 17 yrs)	4+	3+
Snapchat	13+	12+	12+
Spotafriend	13-19 yrs only	17+	16+
Steam	13+	17+	12+
Tinder	18+ (Facebook account required to register)	17+	18+
Tumblr	13+	17+	12+
Twitter	13+	4+	12+
Vimeo	13+ (With parental permission up to 17 yrs)	17+	12+
Vine	13+	17+	12+
WhatsApp	16+	4+	3+
Yellow	13+ (With parental permission up to 17 yrs)	12+	12+
YouTube	13+	17+	12+