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Dear Parents and Carers,

With children having returned to school and the continued use of online activity, it is important to remind you all about keeping your children safe online. When teaching online safety in school we share with the children the benefits of being able to connect with each other via the internet. However, with this comes risks such as exposure to Cyberbullying, disinformation and grooming, among other associated risks.

As a school we have dedicated one lesson per week to E-safety discussions for each class with their teacher. This is done through a taught curriculum- **Education for a Connected World- a framework to equip children and young people for digital life and Project EVOLVE - Education for a Connected World Resources**. It focuses specifically on eight different aspects of online education: **1. Self-image and Identity 2. Online relationships 3. Online reputation 4. Online bullying 5. Managing online information 6. Health, wellbeing and lifestyle 7. Privacy and security 8. Copyright and ownership**.

In Spring 2, all years focused their E-safety discussions around 'Self-image and Identity' where they explored the differences between online and offline identity. Over the next 2 terms, classes will work their way through the strands and explore Online Relationships.

The National Guidance recommends reviewing home security and safety settings, checking facts and guarding against disinformation, being vigilant against fraud and scams, and managing the amount of time spent online. One of the most effective methods of keeping young people safe online is to raise awareness and have open conversations with your children about what to do if they feel unsafe online, what online activities your children are engaged in and who they are talking with. Guidance to support you with these conversations can be found using these links:

- Teaching Your Child about Internet & Online Safety | NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talNSPCCking-child-online-safety/>
- Parent Zone <https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>
- The NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- UK Safer Internet Centre <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>
- Online safety Guide from Hampshire County Council <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/safeguardingchildren/onlinesafetyguide>

To ensure we keep children and young people safe whilst enjoying the enormous benefits of the internet, it is imperative we work together as a community. There will be termly updates on our E-safety curriculum, guidance and any useful links for help at home that we will continue to share with you via email and on our website. If you should need any support please do also contact the school office on: 02380 261808 or email: adminoffice@hiltingbury-jun.hants.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss McCarthy.

Computing Lead

