

Success Together Aspire Respect

11th February 2025

To All Parents/Carers

Learning Partnership

As today marks Safer Internet Day, I felt it was a timely opportunity to reach out to you regarding the ongoing importance of conversations at home about the use of technology. In our increasingly digital world, it is essential to ensure that our children are engaging with appropriate content across various programmes, games, and online platforms.

At Philips High School we invest a lot of time in our curriculum, educating pupils on internet safety. However, time and time again, we are becoming increasingly aware that our children are viewing material and online subject matter that is not always age appropriate.

We recognise that our children may occasionally come across inappropriate material, sometimes inadvertently due to a lack of awareness. Therefore, it is crucial to maintain open dialogues at home and in school about their online experiences. This encourages our children to approach us with any concerns they may have, creating a safe and trusting environment where they can discuss potentially troubling content they encounter. We urge you to have these important conversations at home so that you have an insight into your child's awareness of such content in order to help them to understand that they can share with a trusted adult, both at home and at school.

At Philips we have implemented a robust filtering and monitoring system of our students' internet access in school. This ensures a secure online experience when using an educational device. However, we would also like to emphasise the importance of reviewing and adjusting the settings on any devices that your children use at home. Ensuring that these settings are adequate is vital to guarantee age-appropriate viewing and safeguarding their well-being in the digital world.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that our school takes all forms of bullying very seriously, including online bullying. The safety and well-

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being of our students is our top priority and we are committed to fostering a respectful and supportive learning environment. Cyberbullying, whether it occurs inside or outside of school, can have serious effects on a child's emotional and mental well-being. We encourage open communication between parents, students and staff to address any concerns. Please know that we will take appropriate action to investigate and respond to any reported incidents, ensuring that our children feel safe and protected.

We appreciate working together with you to support our children in this matter and ensuring they feel safe. Should you wish to discuss any aspects further, or if you have questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Together, we can help our children navigate the online world safely and responsibly.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Hibbert HEADTEACHER

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