



Cummersdale School | E-Newsletter January 2020

At Cummersdale, children from Y1 – 6 are currently using a new scheme called E-Aware to make the children aware of all aspects of e-safety. Mrs Scott is delivering the sessions to most of the school. We thought it may be useful for us to share some of what we're doing with you as well as providing some tips for you at home. We hopefully will be able to produce one of these E-newsletters once a term.

Following initial assessments the children were put into categories. The assessment was a quiz which was created by E-Aware.

Green - These students demonstrated competency and have a good knowledge of the online challenges they may face.

Amber - These students demonstrated a level of vulnerability, they have some understanding of the dangers which can be found online, however, improvements are necessary to ensure these students are given the best chance of being able to identify and avoid online risks independently.

Red - These students have demonstrated a poor level of understanding of the online risks they may encounter.

	Red	Amber	Green
Year 1/2	92%		8%
Year 3/4	72%	~20%	8%
Year 5/6	3%	85%	12%

Resources have been used which are supplied through E-Aware to address the areas that are needing targeted and where our children are most vulnerable.

Topics to be covered, (not all year groups will do each of these areas as it is age appropriate and will build on their previous knowledge over their time at Cummersdale School).

Password – Children will explore the rules for creating a secure password and how to keep this safe.

Privacy – Understanding the difference between private and personal information. Children will learn what information we need to keep private and also the reasons why.

Friends – Children will explore online communities and who are friends. The dangers of accepting friend requests.

Online time – Children will explore the pros and cons of spending too much time online. Learning about having a balanced lifestyle.

Digital footprints – Understanding that digital footprints are permanent not like footprints in the sand.

Cyber bullying – Becoming aware of what is appropriate and what to do if you are bullied online.

Gaming – Understanding the reasons for age restrictions, in app purchases and keeping safe while playing games online.



Smart Phones

Did your child get a new smart phone for Christmas or are they using yours? Have you made sure that the correct parental controls have been set up to help protect your child whilst using the device?

Example controls include setting the device so only age appropriate apps can be downloaded and the ability to disable in-app purchasing (or don't store your payment card details) to avoid any hefty bills.

iPhone advice: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>

Android advice: <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/android-smartphone/>

WhatsApp privacy settings

Are yours and your child's (if using) privacy settings set up appropriately? For example, you can set that only 'my contacts' can add you to groups and even add exceptions to this rule.

Android device: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/en/android/23225461/?category=5245250>

iPhone device: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/en/iphone/28041111>

Smart speakers

Have you invested in a smart speaker for your home? "Hey, Google" or "Alexa, play some music" may be your key commands now but have you set up the correct parental controls? For example, when using a supervised account on a Google nest, children can't make purchases.

Google Nest: https://support.google.com/googlenest/answer/9039704?hl=en-gb&ref_topic=7196250

Amazon Echo: <https://www.common sense media.org/blog/how-to-set-parental-controls-on-the-amazon-echo>

Is TikTok Safe for Kids?

With more than 500 million users, TikTok is incredibly popular with young people and whilst the minimum age requirement is 13 there are examples of many young people below this age using the app. There have been reports of predators using the app to target younger users.

Many young people enjoy 'going live' which is when they do a live broadcast of what they are currently doing. There is no way to vet this content meaning users may accidentally view something they did not intend to or post something which they can no longer undo.

Advice to parents:

- Ensure that your child has a private account – When you sign into TikTok, your account is public by default, meaning anyone can see videos and send you direct messages.
- Encourage your child to use TikTok in communal spaces where you can monitor the content they are creating and viewing.
- Explore the built in digital wellbeing features.
- Turn on the screen time management, which limits users to 2 hours on the app per day.
- Turn on the Restricted Mode, which blocks some content but, as this is not fool proof ensure your child knows what to do if they see content which upsets them.