Keeping your child safe on the internet

Your children are never too young to have chats about how to stay safe when they are online. Over the coming weeks your children will be using computers, tablets and your smartphones much more to complete learning activities while they are at home. The internet is a fun educational tool to support your children's learning while exploring together, however there are some important and informed choices you can make to keep your children safe online.

- Set parental controls on your home broadband. Most internet enabled devices will allow you to set parent controls, this will allow you to manage what your children see and who they can communicate with.
- There are many ways children access the internet – laptops, tablets, smartphones and the TV. It is important to make sure you have parental controls set on all of the devices your children may access.
- Set passwords on all of your internet-enabled devices and do not share these with your children. That way you can control when and where the devices are used.
- Only allow children access to the internet in family areas. This will allow you to keep an eye on what your children are doing and allows you to enjoy the internet together.
- Allow your children to use only child-safe search engines. These will allow your child to search the internet without the worry that they will come across something inappropriate or scary.

Remember the internet is an amazing tool that is going to be a huge part of your children's lives. Encourage your children to talk about the internet and ask questions when they are unsure. Remind your children to never talk to people they don't know when playing games online.

Educating your child on how to stay safe online will help them to stay safe now and in the future!

For more information and advice log into

    www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/support-your-child-at-home/

www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/staying-safe-online?edi