



At Waltham Tollbar Academy, we take E-Safety very seriously. We know how difficult it can be to keep track of all the latest sites and apps that students are interested in. This page provides advice, guidance and support for parent/carers to help keep their child safe online. You can find links to all relevant policies at the bottom of this page. If you have any concerns about your child's online safety, please call the Academy and our Safeguarding Team will be happy to help.

Staying safe online

We have a strict internet usage policy at Tollbar including a filter system for what content children can access and an alert system which immediately notifies a member of staff if someone in the academy tries to search for something deemed inappropriate. This system is frequently and rigorously monitored.

The internet and the world wide web are fantastically powerful learning tools that can bring the entire world to a child's fingertips. At Tollbar we believe in using these tools to their full advantage to help our young people in their learning journey. However, we are also acutely aware of the potential pitfalls the internet brings with it. We all have a part to play in ensuring that our young people are safe and secure when they are online. That they are not exposed to inappropriate and unsuitable material and that they do not come into contact with people they do not know. but here are some simple guidelines for students and parents to follow whether at school or at home.

Great advice on safety controls for online safety can be found here

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

CEOP REPORTING ON LINE ABUSE: [Should I make a report to CEOP? | young person](#)

CEOP is a law enforcement agency and is here to help keep children and young people safe from sexual abuse and grooming online. We help thousands of children and young people every year who have been in a similar situation to you. CEOP are unable to respond to reports about bullying, fake accounts or account hacking.

They are there to help and give you advice, and you can make a report directly to us if you are worried about online sexual abuse or something has happened online which has made you feel unsafe, scared or worried. This might be from someone you know in real life, or someone you have only ever met online.

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/How-can-CEOP-help-me-YP/>

What kind of things do people report to CEOP?

- Some of the things children and young people have reported to CEOP include:
- Someone online has asked me to send them nude images
- I shared a nude image with someone online and they are threatening me
- I did something that I was embarrassed about on webcam and someone has turned nasty towards me
- Someone I don't know is asking me to live-stream and do things I don't want to do
- Someone online kept asking me to meet them face-to-face and I feel pressured by them
- Someone online was talking to me about sex and it made me feel uncomfortable
- Someone online is putting pressure on me to do things I don't want to do

- Someone I met in an online game keeps trying to talk to me privately

Social Networking

Social Networking Sites such as Facebook are great to use, but here are a few pointers to keep your personal information as safe as possible:

- Set up Privacy Settings so that YOU decide which areas of your profile can be accessed by others. In some instances, through the applications you add, others can access your personal information.
- Always monitor the comments and entries posted on your pages and remember to be responsible and courteous online.
- If you get contact requests, comments or messages from people either known or unknown, which makes you uncomfortable, talk to a trusted adult, this can be your parents/carers, Form Tutor, Teacher, Pupil Guidance Officer or Safeguarding Mentors. You can also report it to the site owners.
- Make yourself aware of the Rights and Responsibilities of social networking sites.
- Any information you give out online can be easily copied, stored and misused by others. Remember this when you post photos or personal information.

Websites

Anyone and everyone can have a website. This means that just because a website looks official doesn't always mean it is. Ask yourself:

- What is the aim of the site?
- Is it a personal site or an official site?
- Who owns the website? Are there contact details on the site?
- How often is the information updated?
- If the site collects personal information, does it have a privacy policy•?

Camera Phones and Bluetooth

Mobile Phones have cameras, Bluetooth and Internet connections so you can communicate wherever you go. However, bear the following in mind:

Bluetooth can be used to harass, send files and bully others. Only turn Bluetooth on when it is necessary or use the visibility setting. If you receive harassing or obscene messages, tell an adult immediately. Do not delete or forward these. Keep them as evidence that can be used when making a report.

Messenger Applications

Chatting with your friends online using Messenger is fun and direct. However, there are a few things to bear in mind: Unless you have made your profile private and only available to your contact list, other people can access it, so be careful what personal information you put on it. Always tell an adult if a conversation online makes you feel uncomfortable. There are laws against harassment and bullying and you have the right to feel secure. If someone is bullying or harassing you via text chat keep the chat logs as evidence.

- Block people that make you feel uncomfortable.
- Always log off after you have finished, or someone could pretend to be you online.
- General Internet Common Sense
- Think about what information you put in your online profiles.

- Consider using a nickname.
- Make your profile private and only add friends whom you know in real life.
- Remember there are laws to keep you safe and you should report issues like racist comments, bullying or sexually inappropriate comments to agencies such as CEOP or Internet Watch Foundation (IWF).

Age Related Safety Guides from Internet Matters

Children use the internet in different ways depending on their age and so Internet Matters have developed checklists for parents that give you top tips on how to help them stay safe.

[Online Safety Guide for 11-13 years](#)

[Online Safety Guide for 14+](#)

You can find additional support from Internet Matters to help your child navigate secondary school [here](#).

CEOP

The NCA's CEOP Command (formerly the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) works with child protection partners across the UK and overseas to identify the main threats to children and coordinates activity against these threats to bring offenders to account. We protect children from harm online and offline, directly through NCA led operations and in partnership with local and international agencies.

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

Social media help

Social media sites and apps are updated all the time, and children seem to know more about the apps than we do! The links below will tell you where to go to find help about the safety features available on these popular social networks. They provide parental advice and support in case something goes wrong or you have concerns in relation to one of these social media sites.

REPORTING ON LINE ABUSE: [Should I make a report to CEOP? | young person](#)

[Roblox](#) - Roblox is described as suitable for ages 7+, however recommendations are that parents limit the on-line chat feature which means anybody can chat to your child on-line. The hyperlinked title will provide parents with guidance and support to restrict the on-line chat feature.

[YouTube](#) – The age requirement to create your own account is 13+. The hyperlinked guide provides support and advice for parents to apply restriction modes which filters inappropriate content. It is highly recommended that all parents apply this to their devices.

[Facebook](#) - The age requirement for a Facebook account is 13+.

[Tik Tok](#) - The age requirement for a Tik Tok account is 13+.

[Instagram](#) - The age requirement for an Instagram account is 13+.

[Snapchat](#) - The age requirement for a Snapchat account is 13+. Reporting Snapchat content [Safety Centre - Social Media Safety Tips | Snapchat Safety](#)

[WhatsApp](#) - The age requirement for WhatsApp is 16+

[Twitter](#) - The age requirement for a Twitter account is 13+.

[AskFm](#) - The age requirement for a AskFm account is 13+.

For further advice and guidance in relation to social media please click [here](#)

Video Games

Please click on the links below to find out information about the video games your children play. In addition, the site explains where to find the most up to date information for setting parental controls on consoles and explains how PEGI ratings work.

[PEGI Ratings](#) – The Video Standards council sets age ratings for games; this site will help you to understand what those ratings mean.

[Ask About Games](#) - This website provides advice and guidance for parents to set up controls and restrictions on all major consoles. It also contains a database of family friendly games.

[Staying Safe on Minecraft](#) - Minecraft can be used by children under the age of 13 with their parents' permission. This website provides support, advice and guidance to ensure your child stays safe whilst playing the game.

[Pokémon Go](#) - A guide to keep your child safe if they are playing Pokémon Go.

[A Guide for Parents](#) – An online guide by O2 for parents to help protect their child online. This website also contains a guide to support setting up your child's first mobile phone.

Youth Produced Sexual Imagery

It may feel awkward, but it's important to explain to children the risks of sending images of themselves or others, how to stay safe and remind them that they can talk to you if something ever makes them feel scared or uncomfortable.

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) has information about this issue on its website: [Sharing nudes and semi-nudes | NSPCC](#)

Frequently asked questions

Q - My child is accessing inappropriate material on the internet, what should I do?

A – It is always advisable to set up parental controls to restrict the material your child can access on the internet. This [link](#) provides details of how to apply filtering for all major internet providers. Remember that filtering is only part of the solution as no parental control system is 100% effective. Take time to discuss safer internet use with your child using the advice and guidance above. If you are concerned about the material your child has accessed, please contact your child's Academy immediately and ask to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Q - My child is being bullied on social media, what should I do?

A – Please report this immediately to the Safeguarding team at the Academy. If this is happening on social media, it is advisable to block the perpetrator from making further contact, advise on how to do this can be found under the social media section of this page.

Q – My child has been contacted by an unknown adult online, what should I do?

A – Please report this immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead at your child's Academy. If you think your child is being groomed by an adult, report it to the authorities immediately. You can seek further support from the Nation Crime Agency's CEOP command for support. Further advice about online grooming can be found [here](#).

Other useful websites

[The Parent Zone](#) – Useful information about online safety

[Think U Know](#) – Protecting your child from online abuse online

[Child Exploitation and Online Protection](#) - For advice, support or how to report a concern.

<https://www.virginmedia.com/blog/online-safety/childrens-internet-safety-test/>

Students

Everyone has a right to feel safe and for the majority, you will be lucky and not have any issues, however things sometimes happen that can worry you or that make you feel uncomfortable. If you

get into a situation that makes you feel uncomfortable, confused, upset and don't know who to turn to speak to your parents, a trusted adult or contact us at school.

Help outside of the Academy/during weekends/holidays:

- www.walthamtollbaracademy.co.uk
- enquiries@lincolnshiregateway.co.uk

REPORTING ON LINE ABUSE and Help outside academy hours/holidays

Should I make a report to CEOP? | young person

- Childline 0800 1111. www.childline.org.uk
- <https://www.safernel.co.uk/report-a-concern/>
- Police 999
- www.thinkuknow.co.uk is also useful. It is a safe website that offers help and support to you. You can feel confident in being honest and explaining any issues you have had.

If any pupils have a concern or worry in school, they can email our school support enquiries@lincolnshiregateway.co.uk or contact a member of the safeguarding team <https://walthamtollbaracademy.co.uk/tollbar/media/files/safeguarding-team.pdf>