The internet is amazing!
Children can play, learn, create and connect, opening up a whole world of exciting possibilities.
But with the digital world changing all the time, how can you make sure your child is staying safe?

Come to our internet safety workshops!

Shortly, you will receive an invite from your child, asking you to come to an internet safety workshop in school.

The workshop will guide you through the many issues that children can experience when on-line.

Your child is keen you come, to be sure they are safe and are able to enjoy all the internet offers!

As a parent or carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online.

Don't worry, you don't need to be an expert on the internet to do this!
Advice and a range of resources are available to support you as you teach your child to use the internet safely, responsibility and positively.

What are the issues?

The internet is an amazing resource which enables children to connect, communicate and be creative in a number of different ways, on a range of devices.

However, the internet is always changing, and being able to keep up to date with your children's use of technology can be a challenge.

You may sometimes feel that your children have better technical skills than you do, however children and young people still need advice and protection when it comes to managing their lives online.

Issues that your child may encounter on the internet will vary depending on their age and online activities.

The UK Safer Internet Centre has grouped potential online risks into these 4 categories:

Conduct: children may be at risk because of their own behaviour, for example, by sharing too much information.

Children need to be aware of the impact that their online activity can have on both themselves and other people, and the digital footprint that they create on the internet. It's easy to feel anonymous online and it's important that children are aware of who is able to view, and potentially share, the information that they may have posted. When using the internet, it's important to keep personal information safe and not share it with strangers.

Content: age-inappropriate or unreliable content can be available to children.

Some online content is not suitable for children and may be hurtful or harmful. This is true for content accessed and viewed via social networks, online games, blogs and websites. It's important for children to consider the reliability of online material and be aware that it might not be true. Children may need your help as they begin to assess content in this way.

Contact: children can be contacted by bullies or people who groom or seek to abuse them

It is important for children to realise that new friends made online may not be who they say they are and that once a friend is added to an online account, you may be sharing your personal information with them. Regularly reviewing friends lists and removing unwanted contacts is a useful step. Privacy settings online may also allow you to customise the information that each friend is able to access.

Reinforce with your child the importance of telling a trusted adult straight away if someone is bullying them or making them feel uncomfortable, or if one of their friends is being bullied online.

Commercialism: young people can be unaware of hidden costs and advertising in apps, games and websites

Young people's privacy and enjoyment online can sometimes be affected by advertising and marketing schemes, which can also mean inadvertently spending money online, for example within applications. Encourage your children to keep their personal information private, learn how to block both pop ups and spam emails, turn off in-app purchasing on devices where possible, and use a family email address when filling in online forms.

CHALLENGE · INSPIRE · SUCCEED

On-line Advice and Support

You may like to have a look at these websites for further information.
Some are aimed at children, explaining how to keep safe on-line in a fun
and interactive way.

There are links to the websites from our school website,
www.thorpeprimary.co.uk

www.thinkyouknow.co.uk

www.internetmatters.org

www.nspcc.org.uk

www.childnet.com

www.safetynetkids.org.uk

www.childline.org.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk