E-Safety

Whether doing research for homework, chatting with friends online or playing games, your child is likely to spend even more time on the computer as they get older and this also increases the risk of safety. Numbers of steps which can be taken to stay safe when online have been explained to pupils during assemblies and form time. While they may understand computer programs, surfing the internet, chat rooms and multiplayer games better than you do, they still need your guidance. Further information for parents/carers can be located on the 'Keeping Children Safe' icon on our homepage.

For really serious concerns you can report using the CEOP website. Has someone acted inappropriately towards you online, or to a child or young person you know? It may be sexual chat, being asked to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable or someone being insistent on meeting up.

The links below provide information and guidance for parents and students about the risks and how to stay safe using technology.

- **CEOP The parent/care guide to internet safety**
- **www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers**
- **www.lgfl.net/esafety/Pages/safeguarding.aspx**

All pupils and parents/carers are required to have a read and signed the academy Acceptable Use Policy before access to the computer systems is granted. Our school also uses safer internet day and anti-bullying week to raise student awareness. E-Safety is also being taught as part of the ICT curriculum.

All computer activity at Hillcrest School and Sixth Form centre is monitored by our IT Support and Senior Leadership teams using Impero's leading edge classroom management software. This includes how devices have been used when off-site as soon as devices are reconnected to our network.

This allows us to monitor student and staff use of our systems and devices for safeguarding purposes, including preventing radicalisation following high profile cases of students and young people leaving this country and entering (or attempting to) overseas states where organisations deemed as terrorists carry out their activities.
Since technology plays an increasingly important role in young people's day-to-day lives, through the use of smartphones, tablets and laptop/desktop computing, it is no surprise that these means of communication are very often used for the purpose of radicalisation and other forms of exploitation. Fortunately, if this occurs on the school computer and tablet network, it is usually possible to detect this early and support students.

With many young people's interest in radicalisation originating from what they explore on the internet, it is reassuring to know that our classroom monitoring tools detect the inappropriate access of this kind of content (and well as any other potentially harmful content); real-time screen viewing is available and can be monitored network wide; we also have keyword databases that are customised to identify the use of inappropriate language and viewing on the school network, sending immediate screen shots to our monitoring team.

Impero: monitoring your child's safety online at school

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