

Parental Controls

I'm sure that, for Christmas, your children are asking for lots of new and expensive gaming devices or phones. There are so many connected devices on the market now, each with their own unique way of setting up parental controls and restrictions. Equally, the functionality of these devices can be daunting with chat, game downloads, in-app purchases, third party apps on the devices (such as social media, Netflix) etc. This can be a puzzle to lots of us!

If you need help setting up controls on any devices, you can look up the device on YouTube using a simple 'how to' query, e.g. 'how to restrict in-app purchases on Playstation 5'.

The wonderful people at Internet Matters also have a one-stop shop for setting up



devices which can be found here:

https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/

Or remember, on the school website there are guides for setting

End-to-end encryption

You may have heard the announcement that end-to-end encryption (E2EE) is being rolled out by default on Meta platforms.

Whilst encryption plays an important role in protecting our privacy online, this must be balanced with the imperative to safeguard children and young people online. This will now put undue pressure on children and young people to self-report instances of abuse, rather than platforms having security features in place to both prevent and detect abuse before it occurs. When E2EE is used, not even the platform itself can see or get access to the messages, images or videos being sent between sender and receiver. CEOP have more information and advice on E2EE on their website but most importantly, they do advise talking to your children



so they know what to do should they be worried about anything they receive.





Roblox Safety

With Christmas just around the corner, this Roblox checklist is a useful resource to share with you, particularly as this is one of the most popular games with children out there. Roblox and SWGfL have collaborated together and created the checklist for parents which includes:

How to report abuse.

How to block users.

Setting up a parent control pin.

And more.

Find it free here: https://swgfl.org.uk/assets/documents/roblox-checklist.pdf



SAFEGUARDING REMINDERS

As always, keeping our children safe is vitally important and taking the steps outlined above will help you to do so. Remember, if you wish to discuss anything regarding safeguarding, then please use our e-mail address: headteacher@stjamesacademy.co.uk or contact Miss Minor (our Designated Safeguard Lead) at the Academy. You can also contact Mrs Dent, Mrs Lloyd, Mrs Butterworth, Miss McCarthy or Mr Wildey.

If school is closed and you have a safeguarding concern, please remember YOU too can call Social Care and make a referral. Their number is 0345 8503 503.

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

