

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

Online Safety

Dear Parents/Carers,

In school we encourage and promote positive role models in both the digital world as well as the real world. As children become more confident and knowledgeable in using modern communication technologies, it is the partnership of schools and parents that can help them to use it wisely, safely and responsibly.

At school we talk to the children about staying safe online – this starts from the Early Years and continues right the way through to Year 6. Several concerns have recently been raised in relation to games, social media platforms (including TikTok) behaviour and language displayed by children in the playground that are based on inappropriate films, YouTube content and games rated 12+.

All the above can be a wonderful addition to our lives but if used inappropriately it can be harmful to children's well-being and impact mental health. Risks may include;

- Access to abusive messages.
- Viewing/sharing videos that are age inappropriate and sexually explicit.
- Viewing/sharing dangerous online hoaxes/challenges.
- Children interacting with complete strangers.
- Imitating games at school that may frighten or offend others.

A great deal of content on TikTok is not suitable for primary age children. TikTok's algorithm works in such a way that if you watch a video all the way through to the end, the app will show you more videos of a similar nature.

Whilst social media use will normally take place at home it can have major implications for children in school, including a negative impact on teaching and learning and a negative effect on friendships.

At Norbridge Academy, online safety is a central pillar of our computing curriculum – we are confident our children are aware of how to stay safe online, please help at home to monitor your child's device and set adequate parental controls.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R Jackson', written over a faint circular stamp.

Miss R Jackson  
Head of academy