Killen Primary School

Online Safety

A Parents' Guide

The success of devices like the iPod, iPad and iPhone made Steve Jobs a household name and earned him billions of dollars. However, despite spending his life creating one of the world's biggest technology empires, he took a fairly strict view on gadgets when it came to his children.

After Christmas when many of our children have received new computer software, tablets or phones as presents, it is always prudent to remind ourselves of a few safeguards to ensure our children act responsibly and remain safe online.

Talking to your child is one of the best ways to keep safe. You can also use parental controls on social networks, online games and browsers. These work on both hardware and software that can filter or monitor what your child can see.

Preventing your children from using the internet or mobile phones won't keep them safe in the long run, so it's important to have conversations that help your child understand how to stay safe and what to do if they ever feel scared or uncomfortable.

Tips For Online Safety

1.   Have the conversation early and often.

2.   Explore online together.

3.   Know who your child id talking to online.

4.   Set rules and agree boundaries.

5.   Make sure that content is age-appropriate.

6.   use parental controls to filter, restrict, monitor or report content.

7.   Check they know how to use privacy settings and reporting tools.