

12 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As young people become increasingly active online, protecting their digital privacy is more important than ever.

Secondary-age pupils often use a wide range of apps, websites, and social platforms, which can involve sharing personal information without always being aware of the risks.

Recent guidance from online safety experts highlights the importance of helping young people understand how their personal data is collected, shared, and used online, and how they can take steps to protect their privacy.

To support families with this, we recommend the following short article:

Top tips to protect your child's digital privacy

<https://theeducationalliance.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/articles/top-tips-to-protect-your-child-s-digital-privacy>

The article offers practical advice for parents, including managing privacy settings, understanding app permissions, and having informed conversations with your child about staying safe online.

I'd also like to share two valuable resources designed to help us better understand the language and symbols children and young people may use online. These guides can play an important role in safeguarding, as they highlight emojis and text abbreviations that can sometimes carry hidden or concerning meanings.

The resources cover:

- **Emoji Guide** – Explains common emojis that may indicate bullying, self-harm, drugs, inappropriate content, or other safeguarding concerns.
- **Text Abbreviations & Acronyms Guide** – Highlights abbreviations that could suggest risky or harmful online behaviour, including self-harm, sexual references, or bullying.

By becoming familiar with these symbols and abbreviations, we can be more alert to potential risks in children's online interactions and offer timely support where needed.

I do recommend that you do have these conversations at home and if you need any support or guidance, please let us know, we are here to help and support.

Regards



Mr R J Wilson



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