

## **Keeping Children Safe Online**

At PTS we have a dedicated Safeguarding Team who are fully trained in online safety, this helps us to provide support and an open-door policy for our learners if they experience any of the dangers that the online world can pose to them. We also offer a comprehensive Personal and Social Development Programme (PSD) to all learners which aims to educate them to keep themselves safe online.

As parents/carers it is increasingly difficult to keep up with the latest apps and websites that our young people are using. Our young people are spending more time online which can be a real concern if we don't educate ourselves on the risks to them. This is why PTS feel it is important to support you as parents/carers and provide you with the knowledge and understanding to keep your young people safe. Please see below for some useful tips and resources:

- Keep an open dialogue with your young person, show an interest in what they are doing online, it is important to have open and honest conversations with them, this will make them feel more confident to tell you when things have gone wrong
- Be responsible with how you behave online, keep yourself safe and set good examples on privacy and what is appropriate to share, you are their role model!
- Set age related security, ensure you use parental controls and follow the guidelines and recommendations for individual sites, they are usually age restricted for a good reason
- Explore and understand the apps they are using, know how they work, what activities can be carried out, who uses these apps?
- Contact PTS for help and advice, our trained staff will be happy to help
- If things go wrong, do not judge, be supportive to your young person and know where to report things, some useful websites are listed on the next page, make yourself familiar with them!







https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/

CEOP – Think U Know this is a useful website for parents/carers and young people, you can report any concerns on this website

Parents homepage (thinkuknow.co.uk)

## NSPCC Net Aware))

NetAware – this is a useful website to explore apps/websites and keep up to date with changes

https://www.net-aware.org.uk/

The online world can be amazing! It can help your young person to connect with and explore the world, but there are many hidden dangers and risks, which is why it is important for you to play an active part in keeping them safe!

For further information or if you are concerned about your young person please contact

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