



TO YEAR 5 PARENTS

23rd July 2018

Dear Parents,

E SAFETY CONCERNS

Over the past few years, YouTube has become an extremely popular online source of information and entertainment for both children and adults alike. We have noticed that a number of children in Year 5 are spending a lot of time on YouTube.

Children can spend hours searching and watching their favourite videos, researching a school topic or creating their own videos and uploading them to share with family and friends. YouTube is an amazing resource for knowledge and entertainment, as well as a great way for children to explore their creativity when making videos.

YouTube's own terms and conditions mean that it should not be used by anyone under 13 years of age. For children under 13 years of age, YouTube has created an App available on Google Play and Apple's App store called '[YouTube for Kids](#)'. This has been created especially by YouTube using stronger filtering algorithms to keep children safe.

Unfortunately, not everything on YouTube is child friendly, and young people can come across some very inappropriate content including violence, sexual videos, bad language and racism. Unfortunately, we have recently experienced children using inappropriate language including racist remarks.

By following these 5 tips, you will make it a safer place, but remember you can't make it 100% safe, so keep having regular chats with your children about what they are doing and take time to sit down with them and use YouTube together as a family.

To help ensure your child is safe when accessing YouTube, please read our advice below.

1. **Create an account in Google that is used by the whole family.** When you make a shared Google account you can see exactly what videos your children are watching, uploading and sharing.
2. Once you have signed in to YouTube via the Family Google Account, the next thing to do is **switch on restricted mode**. In settings, you will find an option to turn on 'Restricted Mode'. This will help keep out some, but not all, of the inappropriate stuff you don't want your children to see. Remember that you have to save this option and you have to set it up for every browser that you use. So if you have multiple computers then you will have to do this on each one.

3. **Sit down with you children and go through the things that they like to watch.** Most content they like will be attached to a channel. If you are happy with the content of the channel then ask your children to subscribe to it, this will then promote content to their feed when they log in. It also lets them know when new videos are available and hopefully this will stop some of the searching which may lead them into inappropriate content.

4. If your children like creating videos then make sure they are signed into the Family Account when they upload, and make sure they **upload privately**. When they click the upload button they can choose to upload as Public, Private or Unlisted. Private means that only people you choose can view the video. If you choose 'Unlisted' then the video can only be viewed by a link generated within the video and this means that only people that you send the link to can view the video.

5. The last thing to do is **disable the comments**. By disabling this it stops people from making inappropriate comments on any video uploaded by them.

If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Parker or your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "PJoyce". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted.

Pip Joyce
Headteacher