

## e-Safety information update for parents and carers

Please can we ask you to speak to your children this week about the content they are sending or receiving when online, and how they are doing this, in order to check they are happy and safe. **We rely on your continued support to help the children** with this increasingly complicated social challenge.

**To help you** we have included links to useful apps for your smartphone, and websites containing e-safety material below. Take a look at this very useful information for parents – click the images and links to go to the websites:

### NetAware

- 1 App by NSPCC, available for smartphones and tablets  
*“Winner - Digital Safety Awards Best product / service for parents”*



### NSPCC

- 2 If you want further comprehensive information and guidance then the NSPCC site is a good start. Follow this link: [Staying safe online by the NSPCC](#)



### thinkuknow

- 3 For children *and* parents, click the logo to review the **thinkuknow** website, and the direct link to the 8-10 year old's section of thinkuknow is here: [thinkuknow](#)

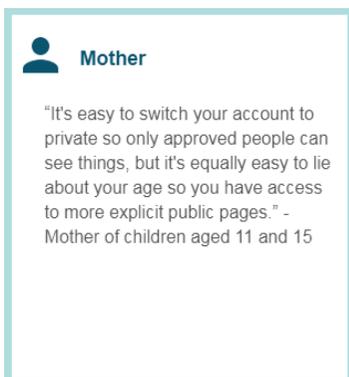


## Are you fully aware of the age restrictions for most of the popular social media platforms?

Did you know that no child under the age of 13 should be permitted to use Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube or WhatsApp (please see [NetAware](#) app link above for a comprehensive list of platforms and age restrictions). If children aged under 13 have opened an account they may have lied about their age, making them appear older than they are, which can lead to children being potentially vulnerable to inappropriate and unsafe activities online.



The advice that B&NES Child Protection team and the Police have given schools is that:



*Extract from NetAware app review of a social media platform*

*“There is no law being broken if a child under 13 has a Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube or WhatsApp account, but such an account breaches each company’s Terms and Conditions and as such every company states they will remove accounts that contravene their policy when they are made aware.*

*Children are therefore also open to breaking rules and ignoring advice. By allowing children to do this at an early age a precedent may be set for them to break other rules in the future.”*

So, in order to reduce the chances of children being susceptible to inappropriate or unsafe content online, can you **please continue to be vigilant about your child’s use of social media platforms and the content they share when communicating with each other.**

If you have any concerns about anything raised here, or need some support with on-line issues, please contact the school.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jo Savory'.

**Mrs Jo Savory**  
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead