



BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong Believe Achieve

Headteacher: Mrs C Pocock

West Street, Banwell, North Somerset, BS29 6DB

Telephone: 01934 822498 Fax: 01934 825020

Email: banwell.pri@n-somerset.gov.uk

Web: www.banwellprimary.co.uk

Dear Parents and carers,

We are becoming increasingly concerned about the appropriateness of the content that children are accessing online at home. We have investigated issues with children where we have found that they have picked up inappropriate language, references and behaviours from materials accessed and viewed online and on gaming platforms at home.

We would like to stress how important it is that devices with internet access and apps that children use should have filters or child safe modes activated in order to keep yours and other people's children safe. The internet is a wonderful tool but there is content and material, which can be accessed easily, that may be unsafe and potentially damaging for your child's well-being. The same is true for console games, TV programmes and films. The age ratings are placed on these materials for the purpose of keeping children safe from content they should not be exposed to. In the eyes of the school and local authority such exposure is viewed as a serious safeguarding concern.

Even if you have filters in place, please ensure that your children are not accidentally or purposefully by-passing them to access materials that are not suitable, this also could happen if your child is aware of your login. For example, YouTube has many videos with extreme content which are easily accessible to your children. You may not allow your child to play age inappropriate games but a YouTube search of 'GTA' or 'Call of duty' will show videos of these games being played through. Please talk to your child about what they are choosing to access and ensure that they are also taking responsibility for their own online safety as filters alone are not sufficient.

We know that everybody wants to keep their children safe but also know that this can be a challenge online. To support you in keeping your children safe we have provided the link to a useful webpage below.

The page has information across 3 tabs.

[Learn about it](#) - Which lets you know more about the types of inappropriate material that can be accessed.

[Talk about it](#) - Which gives you ideas on the sort of conversations that need to happen with your children and links to resources to support this

[Deal with it](#) - Which provide an easy to follow, step-by-step interactive guide to making sure your children are protected across a range of devices.



There are also other materials across this site that can provide the help and information you need.

Following this, we will also be setting up a parents' session to run in school; to talk through a variety of online concerns and also allow us to show you first hand where to find and how to set up the necessary filters and protection you need to keep your children safe. We will provide more follow up information once a date has been set.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/inappropriate-content/#tab-1431375179-1-12275d-94da>

Yours sincerely,

Banwell Primary School

