



Darell Primary School

E-safety Newsletter July 2023



Have you been scammed online?

As scammers become more sophisticated, it's important that we learn about the different approaches that they might use and what to look out for so we can protect ourselves. Barclays have listed some of the most common scams on their website:

<https://www.barclays.co.uk/fraud-and-scams/scams-protection/>

MoneySense from NatWest NatWest have an area on their website full of useful articles and guidance to support your child and enhance your understanding. Articles include avoiding fraud and online scams, information on digital game currency, the dangers of fraud and do you know what a money mule is?

The site also includes activities to complete with your child to enhance their understanding of money including a 'savings challenge' for ages 5 – 8 and 'money and your mental health' aimed at young adults. You can find this information and lots more here: <https://natwest.mymoneysense.com/parents/>

Online Challenges

Our children may not have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse all situations yet so it is important to talk to your child about hoaxes and challenges that may appear on the internet. Some challenges are fun and provide no risk, however there will be challenges that are risky/dangerous. Your child may see others complete certain challenges online without being harmed and therefore may want to repeat them and not consider the potential risks to themselves. Make sure they know that they should talk to you (or another trusted adult) about what they see online, particularly if they plan to try a challenge or if something scares or upsets them.

We would always advise that if your child has not heard about an online challenge, then do not draw attention to it as this may lead to them searching for it out of curiosity, so just talk about challenges in a general sense. **Reassure your child that challenges that suggest that bad things will happen if they do not complete the tasks are not real.**

The following link will provide you with further information as well as content to help you talk to your child:
<https://www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online/advice-for-parents/tackling-the-hard-stuff-on-social-media-to-support-young-people/online-challenges-are-they-harmless/>

Vinted scams

Have you used Vinted to buy and sell used clothes? Please be aware of potential scams. Vinted have published an article highlighting how scammers might target Vinted users and how you can protect yourself. You can read the full article here:
<https://www.vinted.co.uk/help/628-recognise-spoof-and-phishing-messages>

Quora

Quora should only be accessed by users that are 13+. Quora is a question-and-answer site. You do need to set up an account to see and post replies.

Due to the nature of the site, users can communicate with strangers, either through the Q&A boards, spaces or via private messages. Private messaging can be turned off in settings and users can block other users.

Quora is a platform where users can post publicly. If your child is using this site, then please ensure your child understands that they should not share personal information. As content is user generated, talk to your child about how information they read online may not be factually correct. Your child may also come across content and topics that are not age appropriate.

You can find out more about the safety and security of Quora here:
<https://help.quora.com/hc/en-us>

What is Virtual Reality

Did you know that many VR headsets have a minimum age rating of 13? Childnet have produced this article detailing what virtual reality is and the considerations that you should consider before using:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/virtual-reality-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers/>

What is Online Grooming?

This is a really informative article from Thorn:
<https://www.thorn.org/blog/online-grooming-what-it-is-how-it-happens-and-how-to-defend-children/>