

To Parents and Carers

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SKILLS

Council House Manor Square Solihull, West Midlands B91 3QB

www.solihull.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Our Ref: SH/cjd

Date: 4 December 2015

Dear Parent or Carer

In the light of recent incidents which the police are investigating, I thought it timely to remind you to pass on the 'stay safe online' message to your children. There are a number of sensible precautions to take and they are:

- We would urge you to speak to your child and to understand how they are using the internet and any other social media.
- Please do talk to them and show an interest, get familiar with the websites they are visiting and applications they are using, such as any direct messaging apps.
- The best advice is to keep all computers and equipment in a family area so you can see the sites your child is using and be on hand if they need help.
- Phones and games consoles can also be used to go online so make sure you are aware of other ways your child may be accessing information.
- We would urge you to use parental controls on all equipment which can be connected to the internet.
- It is also vitally important that you make sure your child understands they should never give out personal information such as their address, telephone number or school.
- Please report all suspicious incidents to us, your school or the Police immediately.

Further practical information and advice can be found at: https://www.getsafeonline.org/

If you have any concerns that your child may have been a victim of this type of crime please call police on 101 or report it to the safeguarding officer within your school.

Yours sincerely

Sally Hodges

Director of Children's Services and Skills

