

Farcet CofE School

Safeguarding

Newsletter

Spring 2025

Keeping Children Safe Online

Teaching Children About Online Safety

We know that children are increasingly spending more time online and as a result face greater risks of online abuse. Our safeguarding curriculum helps to ensure all of the children at our school know how to stay safe online.

Furthermore, we have our Year 6 Online Safety Ambassador (Amelia) who helps to keep the Headteacher (Online Safety Lead), teachers and teaching assistants aware of primary school aged children's online trends.

The Spring edition of the safeguarding newsletter also considers the use of chat apps and the dangers of parents allowing their children to use such apps to communicate with peers. It also advise you how to report any online concerns that you might have.

Lead DSL/ PREVENT Lead/Online Safety Lead: Caroline Sadler
(Headteacher)

DSL/Family Link Worker: Donna Oldfield



Farcet
C of E Primary School

**We ARE
FARCET**

*We are
Forgiving*

*We are
Ambitious*

*We are
Resilient*

*We are
Compassionate*

We are Equal

*We are
Together*

'Let Your Light
Shine'

(Matthew 5:16)

Safer Internet Day 2026

On the 10th February 2026, Mrs. Bramley and Amelia (Year 6 Online Safety Ambassador) led a whole school assembly about staying safe whilst online. The theme explored this year was *Safe Choices with AI*.

During Nurture Break, the children learnt more about staying safe whilst using AI technology.

Here's what the children learnt about during Safer Internet Day 2026:

- Earhart class learnt about voice assistants.
- Goodall class learnt about staying safe when using smart speakers.
- Luther-King class learnt about the responsible use of AI technologies.
- Hawking class undertook a safe choices with AI quiz.

Mrs. Bramley also sent home information to support parents keep their children safe. Please make sure that you take the time to read this information to keep your children safe online.



What is CEOP?

You may have seen the CEOP link on our school website. CEOP stands for Child Exploitation and Online Protection. CEOP is a **law enforcement agency** and helps keep children and young people safe from sexual abuse and grooming online. Referrals to CEOP can be made by a child/young person, a friend or an adult if they have concerns regarding a child's online activity. The CEOP website provides guidance as to how to report concerns: [CEOP Safety Centre](#)

What are chat apps?

Chat apps can be used to send messages, photos, videos and documents as well as creating large group chats. Popular chat apps include: Whatsapp, Telegram, Viber, Signal, Facebook Messenger, Snapchat and Kik. It is not recommended that children of primary school age have access to a chat app, such as Whatsapp, since the age rating for this app is 13+years of age. However, if you decide to let your child have a chat app on their phone, it is important that you, as parents, know who your children are contacting and what the content is.

The NSPCC (2026) list the dangers of chat apps:

- 1) Unwanted contact
- 2) Pressure to respond
- 3) Live location
- 4) Inappropriate content
- 5) Cyber bullying
- 6) Oversharing



Some chat apps also have end to end encryption when you and only the person you are communicating with can view the messages. This means that the content can't be monitored for illegal activity. This is why it is important to know who your child is talking to, what they are sharing and ensure that they know how to stay safe online.

Lead DSL/ PREVENT Lead/Online Safety Lead: Caroline Sadler
(Headteacher)

DSL/Family Link Worker: Donna Oldfield

Top tips for talking to children about staying safe online

1. Start with the positives

Being online can be a great way for children to learn, be creative, and stay connected with friends and family. Recognising these benefits helps keep conversations balanced and encourages confident, safe use of technology.

2. Find the right time and place

Choose a calm moment to talk, such as during a walk, car journey, or shared activity. Avoid starting the conversation when emotions are high or during a disagreement.

3. Use child-facing resources and advice

Support your conversation with age-appropriate tools, videos, or guides. These can help children understand key messages and make the discussion more engaging and relevant to their stage of development.

4. Ask about their experiences

Use open questions like:

- 'Have you seen anything online that made you uncomfortable?'
- 'Who do you chat with online?'
- 'Are they people you know offline?'
- 'How do you feel when using certain apps or games?'

5. Make it part of everyday life

These chats don't need to be formal or one-off. Regular, relaxed conversations help children feel supported and more likely to speak up if something worries them.

Lead DSL/ PREVENT Lead/Online Safety Lead: Caroline Sadler
(Headteacher)

DSL/Family Link Worker: Donna Oldfield

Reporting online safety concerns

Reporting Child Sexual Abuse

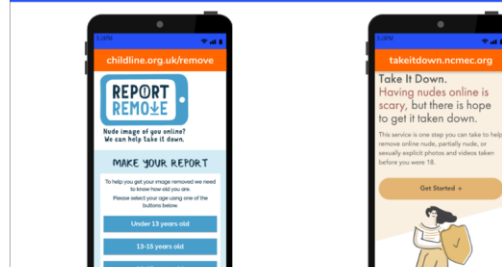
Report child sexual abuse content to the Internet Watch Foundation:



iwf.org.uk

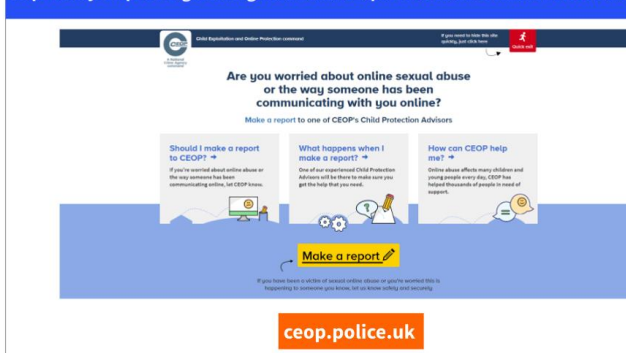
Reporting nude images

Young people can report nude images of themselves that have been shared online here:



CEOP

Report any suspected grooming to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection



ceop.police.uk

Lead DSL/ PREVENT Lead/Online Safety Lead: Caroline Sadler
(Headteacher)

DSL/Family Link Worker: Donna Oldfield

What to do if you are worried about a child's safety:

During out of school hours, if you are worried that a child may be suffering from harm, please use the following link to report your concern: [Safeguarding children and child protection | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

What to do if you are worried about your child's mental health

- 1) Speak to the Lead DSL (Miss Sadler) or Deputy DSLs (Miss Roberts and Mrs Oldfield)
- 2) Contact your GP and make an appointment to discuss your concerns with them.
- 3) Call the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.
- 4) Visit www.youngminds.org.uk.
- 5) Call 999 if your child is in immediate danger



Lead DSL/ PREVENT Lead/Online Safety Lead: Caroline Sadler (Headteacher)

DSL/Family Link Worker: Donna Oldfield