

PSHE Matters

On Wednesday 4th March, Androulla Nicolaou who is part of the Topaz Team from Avon and Somerset Police came in to talk to our Year 8, 9 and 12 students on County Lines and CSE. She also held talks with staff and parents about the dangers facing our students and guided us through some tough topics.

What the students, staff, parents and carers gained from these talks was the importance of **talking to each other**; making sure that our students know that they can talk to parents and carers if something is sent to them that makes them feel uncomfortable, to always tell someone. Very often children think they will get into trouble for what somebody else has sent them and in many instances avoid telling someone who can help. We must make sure that we give our students a voice and let them know that we can help.

If you'd like more information on keeping your loved ones safe on-line please visit the following websites.

internetmatters.org

helpline@saferinternet.org.uk or 0344 381 4772



The online world offers a wealth of resources for education, entertainment, and connection with other people. Unfortunately, the internet can also pose dangers and whilst our students are away from school we want them to stay safe online. Here is some information about apps that give our students a life line to friends and family



Many teens will have a profile on Facebook without using it much. Even so, Facebook's platform allows for interactions with strangers, and its various levels of privacy and multiple means of sharing can make what seem like private interactions more public than a user may realize.



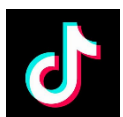
Like Facebook, Twitter isn't the most popular teen social media platform, and while teens should continue to take care with it—and parents should be aware that there's no way to prevent teens from coming across adult material, and no particularly effective means of stopping harassment—it's tamer than some online outlets.



Instagram is much more popular among teens, and it's based primarily on sharing images which people in a user's network can then comment on. Because it's based on images, Instagram can tempt teens to post embarrassing or inappropriate images online, but it has similar privacy settings to Facebook, which means that the user can exercise some control over who can see their content.



Snapchat is based on sharing images. These images 'disappear' after a few seconds however, most devices can capture any images that appears on its screen. And while Snapchat now notifies users that when someone takes a screen grab of an image they've put up, some apps allow users to circumvent this feature. As a result, Snapchat is even more likely to lure teens into thinking an inappropriate or embarrassing picture will never be seen again.



TikTok allows users to create short-form video clips with a range of special effects to gain a following and build a community around their passions. These videos can be shared outside of TikTok on other accounts linked to a user's profile. Some content will not be suitable for children so check the privacy settings.

. It is worth getting your children to check their privacy settings as some of these apps allow strangers to know the exact 'location' of the owner of the phone.