Talking to People

What is Random Chat?

These sites connect individuals at random with strangers to enable them to chat, either by text or webcam. The random element of connecting you with someone anywhere in the world is the main appeal of these sites.

This type of site is often unmoderated and frequently used for chat and actions of a highly and inappropriate nature which can be harmful to young people.

Useful websites

There are a range of useful websites that provide information for parents and children

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.digizen.org

www.childnet.com

www.ceop.gov.uk

www.getsafeonline.org

www.dcsf.gov.uk/ukccis

School Designated Child Protection Lead
Mrs Jessica Sparkes

Deputy DSL
Mrs Davinder Jandu

0121 693 0362

Yarnfield Primary School
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Don't Talk to Strangers on the Internet!

Instant Message

To: Fun Kid 12

Fun Kid 12: Hi! Wanna Chat?

www.CyberGardenkids.com

Yarnfield Primary School
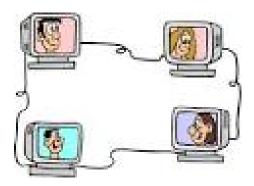SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

E-Safety

Parent Information

Who is my child talking to online?

enquiry@yarnfieldprimary.org.uk

Talking to People Online

Young people use the internet to talk to others in a number of different ways: emailing, instant messaging, webcam and chat rooms.

The online world provides young people with the opportunity to be inquisitive, explore and actively seek risks, such as talking to with people that they don't know.

Chatting online feels different to chatting face-to-face. It can be easier to say and reveal things that you wouldn't in the real world, and be mean, aggressive or even fun.

It is important for young people to remember that there are offline consequences to online behaviours.

As a parent or carer, you need to understand the ways young people communicate with others, and the potential risks.

Until you feel your child is responsible and mature enough to understand and manage the risks of communicating with people they do not know, then you should restrict the sites they use and people they talk to. Young people should be aware that they can:

Block contacts. Most chat sites enable you to block contacts to prevent them from communicating with you.

Report contacts

If someone is being inappropriate on chat sites, you can often report this directly to the site administrator. However, if your child has experienced offensive chat that has made them feel uncomfortable or someone is trying to meet up with them, you can report this directly to CEOP

What is Instant Messaging?

Instant messaging (IM) is instant text chat between two or more people. This tends to be private unmoderated chat. You can build a list of 'friends' or 'buddies' that you can chat to, they can see when you are online and start conversations with you. It is important for young people to know how to manage this list, for example, blocking contacts they don't want to talk to.

Windows Live Messenger is a popular IM service; however, many sites, including Facebook, provide instant messaging.

What Is SPIM?

SPIM is unsolicited messages that are sent through instant messaging sites. These could be adverts, scams, viruses or ways to gather your personal information for the purpose of fraud. Often these appear to be real people requesting to chat.

Your child should not click on messages and links from people that they do not know on their instant messaging accounts as they may risk their computer's security.

What is Webcam Chat?

Webcams let you see the person you're talking to while you're chatting. Services like Skype, Facetime are very popular and free. This can be a great way for young people to chat to each other; however, it is important to remember that what appears on webcam can be recorded and shared with other people in ways that you wouldn't want. Young people should be aware that it is never a good idea to reveal too much of themselves on webcam.

What are Chat rooms?

A chat room is a forum where groups of people meet to chat online – this can some-times be about a particular topic, or can be friends meeting to discuss something. Sometimes chat rooms are moderated; this means that someone, or a computer program, is looking out for inappropriate language or behaviour. Some chat rooms, even those aimed at young people, do contain a lot of inappropriate chat and online flirting. It is important for young people not to engage in appropriate chat with people they do not know, or reveal too much about themselves.