Safer
Internet
Day 2021

UK Safer
Internet
Centre

An internet we trust
Exploring reliability in the online world

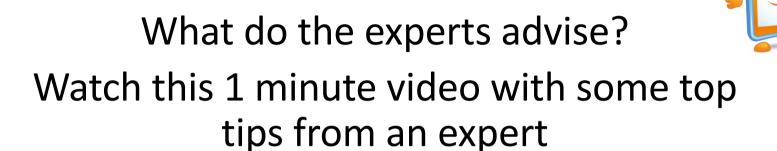Tuesday 9th February 2021

Safer Internet Day 2021

- Safer Internet Day 2021 is being celebrated around the world on Tuesday 9th February 2021.

- The global theme is 'together for a better internet' and this year the focus in the UK is on how young people can tell fact from fiction, and work together to create an internet we trust.

Can you trust these posts?

Watch this 3 minute video looking at people of your age analysing whether to believe what people are posting

https://player.vimeo.com/video/481359801

What do the experts advise?

Watch this 1 minute video with some top tips from an expert

https://player.vimeo.com/video/480845403

Want to watch more?

This is a link to a 15 minute video from the Safer Internet team. You could watch this as part of your tutor time activity for the day

https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2021/i-am-educator/virtual-assembly-11-18s

Want to play something interactive?

You have been sent an email with a link to access an interactive website.

Details:
You will find the social media accounts of two teenagers, Nathan and Samantha, carving their own paths across various online platforms. They're faced with tough decisions surrounding cyberbullying, sexting, pornography and online grooming.

Within this safe space, choices are put into the hands of you as they are empowered to make wise choices and take control of what happens next.

Want to learn more?

There are several powerpoints uploaded onto Show my Homework with activities and learning that you can undertake either by yourself or with a friend/parent.

Free

HINTS AND TIPS

Question the source

- *Can you confirm online information by using other websites?*

- Checking the source can help you make a judgement on whether the information they are sharing is trustworthy.
- Consider where the information has come from and if you know the person or company sharing it. This could give you a reason to be suspicious or to feel that you can trust it.
- Can you find the same information somewhere else?
- The more sources that say the same thing, and the more reliable those sources, the more likely it is that the information can be trusted.

HINTS AND TIPS

Fact or opinion

- *Always check whether there could be another side to the story…*

- Take the time to examine the information you see online and compare it to what you already know about that topic.
- Do you know enough to decide whether to trust it? If not, then do a little more research to find out more.
- Think about what the information is telling you and look for facts or quotes to support the argument. Is an opinion being presented as a fact?
- Be aware that a lot of what we see online is other people's opinions and that there could be another side of the argument.
- Remember that opinions you see online are just that, you do not have to follow them and your opinion is just as important. If the viewpoint of the writer is very clear this could be a sign of bias.

HINTS AND TIPS

Is it too good to be true?

- *Understand the motives behind the content you see online…*

- Think about the reasons behind the things you see online and why they are there.
- If a celebrity is promoting a product it is likely that they are being paid to do so.
- Understanding the motive behind the things you see online can really help you to decide what to trust.
- Look at the way the information or products are presented. Are you being sold something? Is someone trying to change your mind?
- Reviews can be useful but they cannot always be trusted. It has been known for people to write positive reviews of items to boost sales.
- Be sure to think about what you already know before you trust something online. Remember that if something looks too good to be true it probably is.

HINTS AND TIPS

Check with your friends

- *Discuss, research and evaluate online information with people you trust…*

- If you are suspicious or not sure about something you see online talk to your friends for a second opinion.
- You might not all agree but it can be really useful to share your knowledge and talk it through.
- One of your friends may have taken the time to research it further or have some useful experience in this area.
- Ask your friends what they think. Do your friends think this is trustworthy or not?
- Find out what your friends know about this too.
- You can also work together to think about other people or sources that will help you to decide.

HINTS AND TIPS

Talk it through

- *Work with adults to identify and stop misleading or unfair content…*

- It can be hard to know what to do about false or misleading content online, but if you see something misleading, upsetting or worrying online then speak to a trusted adult.
- This is an issue that affects everyone – talking it through with someone who supports you can help you feel less alone.
- Even if you don't know all the answers, together you could take some small steps like making a report, and letting others know not to share it on.
- Do you think what you're seeing is misleading or unfair? Has something been presented in a way to deliberately create hatred and anger? Is it upsetting or worrying? These are all things to look out for and talking them through with an adult can help.

Where can I get more help?

There are loads of places that you can get help:

The College website www.landau-forte.org.uk has loads of links to trusted sites that can support you.

The Safer Internet day website is www.saferinternet.org.uk

The Think you know website www.thinkuknow.co.uk has loads of videos to support you with a whole range of online issues

What about my parents?

Again, there are loads of places that you can get help:

The College website www.landau-forte.org.uk has loads of links to trusted sites that can support you.

The Common Sense media website www.commonsensemedia.org is really useful

The Think you know website www.thinkuknow.co.uk has loads of advice for parents