



Midsomer Norton Primary School

'Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership'

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Health and Wellbeing lesson – Online Safety Be Share Aware

Dear Parent/Carer,

The internet is a fantastic resource but there are also risks associated with children using the internet and social media. We want to educate our children about the many benefits the internet provides us but also about the risks involved. Children need to know the importance of protecting personal information, including passwords, addresses and the distribution of images of themselves and others. They need to understand that they can always speak a trusted adult if they feel something is not right or they have a concern. Recent updates from Avon and Somerset police report that incidents of children being threatened online has increased and as a school, we want our children to be Share Aware and confident in seeking help when they need it.

The children in KS2 will have a lesson this week to learn more about online safety and how to access available help inside and outside school. We will use a lesson from the NSPCC website which includes a video entitled 'I saw your willy'. Please use this link to access the lesson plan and the video: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/schools/share-aware-teaching>

The story is about a boy called Alex. Alex is not someone the children will know, he doesn't go to our school and Alex isn't his real name – but his story IS real and we know that this has happened to some children. Parents can find more Share Aware information online by clicking on this link: NSPCC website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Our children will understand the dangers of taking personal photographs and sharing them online. We will also remind the children that we should never share our passwords with anyone but our parents/carers. We encourage parents to watch this video with their child after the lesson and give the children an opportunity to discuss this important topic.

We will also remind the children about making friends online and how we can't really be friends with someone we don't know. They may not be who they say they are and the children need regular reminding of this. With the Christmas holidays fast approaching and children possibly having a little more time to use the internet, we urge all parents to have these important discussions and give their children regular reminders.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Forster & Mr Randell

