Online Safety

I am aware that schools are utilising every resource available to ensure children are able to continue to access their learning. While only used sparingly, and by the very brave before lockdown, online learning is quickly becoming the mainstay of teaching and learning. Please find below some information that was adapted from work done by a CAPE colleague of mine John Woodhouse at the Safeguarding Network. I am sure you are all familiar with some of this information, but please take the time to check out some of the links which I thought were useful.

Risk online

Children and families will be using the internet more during this period. Schools may also use online approaches to deliver lessons, training or support. It is essential that staff are aware of the signs and signals of cyberbullying and other risks online and apply the same child-centred safeguarding practices as when children were learning at the school.

- Schools should continue to ensure appropriate filters and monitors are in place
- School governing bodies should review arrangements to ensure they remain appropriate
- Schools have taken on board guidance including from the UK Safer Internet Centre on safe remote learning and guidance for safer working practice from the Safer Recruitment Consortium.
- School staff have discussed the risk that professional boundaries could slip during this exceptional period and been reminded of the school’s code of conduct and importance of using school systems to communicate with children and their families.
- Staff have read the 20 safeguarding considerations for livestreaming prior to delivering any livestreamed sessions (this is a really useful checklist and gives consideration to what is important about safeguarding and livestreaming)
- Children accessing remote learning receive guidance on keeping safe online and know how to raise concerns with the school, Childline, the UK Safer Internet Centre and CEOP.
- Parents and carers have received information about keeping children safe online with peers, the school, other education offers they may access and the wider internet community. Ensure you have set out the school’s approach, including the sites children will asked to access and set out who from the school (if anyone) their child is going to be interacting with online. Parents have been offered the following links:
  - Internet matters - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
  - London Grid for Learning - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
  - Net-aware - for support for parents and careers from the NSPCC
  - Parent info - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
  - Thinkuknow - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online
  - UK Safer Internet Centre - advice for parents and carers
- Free additional support for staff in responding to online safety issues can be accessed from the Professionals Online Safety Helpline at the UK Safer Internet Centre.