

Safeguarding Newsletter

Keeping children safe is our top priority



Cadland
Primary School

Newsletter 8

February 2022



When did you last
check your child's
mobile phone, laptop
or tablet?



Do you know who they are messaging, and how?

Would you know if anyone was sending unkind messages to your child?

Would you know if your child was accessing adult sites or looking at indecent images?

Could your child be chatting to total strangers online?

We have this week been made aware of a website called Omegle and wanted to share details with you because we believe some children in our school may have already accessed the site.

Omegle is a chat site which pairs up random strangers for live text or video chats. Its slogan is "Talk to strangers!" and when you use the site you are paired at random with another user.

There is no requirement to register, add a name or email address or create a profile, which means users remain anonymous and it is impossible to know or trust who you are talking to.

Most worrying to us is the content on this site. Omegle is infamous for its pornographic content and it is not uncommon for users to expose themselves or engage in sexual acts. Users are encouraged to switch on their webcams, and there are pop-up links which direct the user to nude and pornographic images.

Anyone can use this site. There is no requirement to register, provide a name or email address, so a child using this site will be completely anonymous, as will all other users.

Please try to make it a habit to check your child's phone regularly and talk about why you are doing so and the importance of staying safe online.

There are lots of sites which will support you in setting up parental controls on devices, or showing you how to access your child's browsing history.

If you access this newsletter via our school website, you will be able to click on the links below and go straight to these really informative sites.

For Apple devices, go to <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>

For Google, go to <https://support.google.com/families>

Also for Google, <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738?hl=en-GB>

For Android devices, go to <https://www.techadvisor.com/how-to/google-android/android-parental-controls-3461359/>

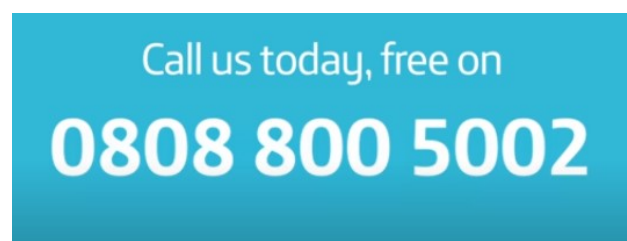
The NSPCC website has some excellent advice and guides, particularly on parental controls and online safety via the two links below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

The **Think U Know website** also has a wealth of really useful resources, including advice on asking awkward questions about relationships online.

And finally, if you would prefer to speak to someone directly, the NSPCC and O2 have teamed up together to offer technical support as well as advice around emotional wellbeing and online safety.



Watch the short video that explains how they can help.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTA9oxNRsrc>