



Support for Parents: Online Safety

Work will be regularly updated on Purplemash.com and Mymaths.co.uk which all children have their own safe, secure access to. Any other sites suggested by Thorpedene during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak are educational and/or have been recommended by reputable sources. All children have access to email using Purple Mash where they can email their Thorpedene friends and teachers in a secure environment: the children can report emails they are unhappy about and emails containing inappropriate language are usually detected and go straight to the site's school administrator instead of to the recipient. No one outside the Purple Mash Thorpedene community have access to this email system. Parents and carers can continue to contact the school via office@thorpedene.southend.sch.uk.

We must emphasise the importance of a safe online environment and encourage parents and carers to set age-appropriate parental controls on digital devices and use internet filters to block malicious websites. These are usually free, but often need to be turned on. Discussions should be had with your children to discuss the importance of online safety and what to do if anything makes them feel uncomfortable. If they ever wish to report harmful online content then they should visit: [UK Safer Internet Centre](https://www.saferinternet.org.uk). If they wish to get advice on reporting online abuse they should visit the National Crime Agency's [Child Exploitation and Online Protection command](https://www.nca.gov.uk/child-exploitation) or click on the CEOP button at the bottom of <https://thorpedene.southend.sch.uk/>



There are several resources to support parents and carers to keep your children safe online:

- [Thinkuknow](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) on staying safe online
- [Parent info](https://www.parentzone.co.uk) is a collaboration between Parentzone and the NCA providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations
- [Childnet](https://www.childnet.co.uk) offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support
- [Internet matters](https://www.internetmatters.org) provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world
- [London Grid for Learning](https://www.londongridforlearning.org) has support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online, including tips to keep primary aged children safe online
- [Net-aware](https://www.net-aware.org) has support for parents and carers from the NSPCC, including a guide to social networks, apps and games
- [Let's Talk About It](https://www.lets-talk-about-it.org) has advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](https://www.saferinternet.org.uk) has tips, advice, guides and other resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online services