

INTERNET SAFETY

Autumn 2009

The internet is a valuable resource which helps us all in our daily work and lives BUT it is important that everyone understands the potential risks, particularly to young people, and knows how to keep safe.

This session explores the CEOP (Child Exploitation and On-Line Protection Unit) website www.thinkuknow.co.uk which we are using as part of our education programme with all staff and young people at Sandy Upper School.

We want to make parents/carers aware of the power of new technologies whilst at the same time alerting them to some of the possible issues. We also want parents/carers to have the opportunity to be aware of the areas being covered by their children.

The session for parents explores the key areas of:-

- ***Grooming of young children on-line by paedophiles***
- ***Safe use of mobile phones***
- ***Risks to young people through on-line gaming***
- ***Social networking***
- ***Chat and Instant Messaging***

The website explains each of these areas and gives practical advice to parents and carers so that they can help support their child's education in the safe use of each of these elements.

This session provides an introduction to on-line safety and we are only too conscious that the capabilities of the internet are still developing at an alarming rate so we know that this information may change.

We recommend that all parents/carers visit the site www.thinkuknow.co.uk and go to the "Parents/Carers" area. Click on each circle to read the information and the most current safety advice.

If you believe that a crime has been committed on the internet, press the CEOP REPORT button on the left of your computer screen and make your report. If, however, you require immediate assistance – contact the police straightaway.