

# St Mary's Lewisham CE Primary School

**Headteacher: Ms Christine Bernard**

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## "St Mary's is a good school" - Ofsted July 2016

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

### **CHILDREN ACCESSING INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE MATERIAL**

It has come to our attention that some children have been accessing inappropriate online material at home such as 'Fortnite'. This has been leading to inappropriate behaviour and play at school. Please be advised that children under the age of 12 should not be playing 'Fortnite' as it contains heavy cartoon violence that some children may find upsetting. They are also likely to try and imitate it in their play, which is not safe. There are communication features available on the app, so there is also a chance that your child could hear or be sent something that upsets them.

Please ensure that your child is not accessing material that is inappropriate for their age. If you are not sure if the content of a particular site or app is appropriate you can visit [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk). This parent friendly site will tell you all that you need to know about the most popular sites for children and young people and help you to make responsible judgements about what your children should be allowed to access.

We advise you to do the following:

- Monitor your child's internet activity – talk to them about what they do online. Ask them what they like to do and get them to show you.
- Set parental controls on your devices.
- Urge your child to report to you anything they notice that might be inappropriate or that makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Remind children to look away from the screen as soon as they see something that might be inappropriate or frightens them, but to NOT close down the App or Website, as it is important that an adult sees what they have seen
- Please let us know if you think your child has been adversely affected by any on-line experience

We strongly suggest that you do not to allow your child unsupervised access to the Internet at any time.

Please do not hesitate to contact me as the Designated Safeguarding Lead if you feel that your child may have been adversely affected by access to any website.

Yours sincerely

Christine Bernard, Headteacher

