



Online Safety

Curriculum Design

Pupils here at Richardson Dees are taught to take a proactive approach to online safety by recognising potential risks, reporting concerns, and communicating effectively in digital spaces. The curriculum supports children in feeling confident to seek help when needed and to understand that trusted adults are always available to support them. We develop pupils' critical thinking skills so they can begin to evaluate online content, distinguish between reliable information and misinformation, and make informed choices. As part of preparing pupils for the future, we introduce age-appropriate discussions about artificial intelligence (AI), helping children understand its benefits, potential risks, and ethical considerations in everyday life. Through this curriculum, pupils gain a strong understanding of digital citizenship, including the importance of privacy, secure passwords, respectful communication, and the impact of their digital footprint. They learn how to build positive online relationships and recognise trustworthy sources and behaviours. As well as a unit of work at the start of the Autumn Term; Online Safety is taught twice a week at the beginning of every Computing lesson and every PSHE lesson. This aims to ensure that the messages around keeping safe online are regular and impactful for our pupils.



Curriculum Intent

Our online safety curriculum is designed to equip pupils with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to use digital technologies safely, responsibly, and respectfully. We aim to foster a culture of awareness, trust, and positive behaviour online, enabling children to understand their role in creating a safe digital community. We do not want our pupils to view the digital world as an unsafe place. Instead, we aim to develop confident and discerning users of technology who can thoughtfully evaluate what they see, hear, and read. By making informed choices, pupils learn how to keep themselves safe while engaging with technology in a positive, purposeful, and responsible way.

