

## Internet Safety

As part of our commitment to providing good and relevant Internet safety advice for all our learners, the school has subscribed to emails from Alan Mackenzie an online safety specialist. His website is [www.esafety-advisor.com](http://www.esafety-advisor.com) and he works with many schools in the UK. The following advice was sent to us in a recent email and we thought it would benefit our learners:

### **Infants/Primary - new Swoosh and Glide story**

The Australian eSafety Commissioner has some brilliant, free resources on their website. One of the newer resources is a new Swoosh and Glide, which tells the adventures of a fun family sleepover, common technology experiences of children and shows what to do when something unexpected happens. The story can be downloaded as a PDF from [HERE](#).

### **Social media for under 13's**

Whenever I am doing a parents session at a school, one of the more common questions I get is "can you recommend any social media apps for children under 13?" It is not an easy one to answer as it can be a very subjective area but I always have two overriding principles:

- Many children under 13 are already on apps that are for over 13's (and over 16's).
- The 'maturity switch' doesn't automatically switch on at 13, children need to be gently introduced to the world of social media in order to understand, manage and mitigate the risk.

So if parents are asking this question, I see it as a positive, in other words they're not just letting their child use anything, they're taking a managed approach.

Internet Matters have a page dedicated to social networks that are specifically designed with children in mind. My personal favourite is GoBubble for many reasons, not least of which is that I have formally risk-assessed this one and it is superb.

It might be worth sending your parents to [THIS LINK](#) which will give them some choices.

### **For parents - AskTheAwkward**

CEOP have released some new resources that may be useful to send out to your parents, including some help sheets and a few videos. AskTheAwkward is about helping with difficult conversations related to online relationships and is mainly geared towards secondary students.

You can find out more, including the download links [HERE](#)