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Headteacher: Mrs S Heather Chair of Governors: R O'Connell

8th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below some information about keeping children safe online taken from https://www.lgfl.net/. It is up to you if you wish to show the youtube video to your children, but we wanted to share the resources with you. https://www.lgfl.net/online-safety/resource-centre is a great website to gain other resources to keep parents up to date with new trends and concerns and ultimately, help keep our children safe. As always, if you have any concerns your child/ren's online safety please come and speak with us. We are always happy to help.

I love my phone and tablet but never get changed or undressed on camera.

Learn my song and stay safe like me! https://youtu.be/G3M3FisOgrA

This resource isn't for teens, it's for the youngest primary pupils. Why? Although there is awareness about teens choosing to or being coerced or tricked into sharing nudes online, this is about another issue altogether (although the principles taught here will also help children as they grow into the age of sexual experimentation later.

We want schools and parents to spread the message of *Undressed* to the very youngest primary pupils because law enforcement agencies such as NCA CEOP have repeatedly warned about sexual predators tricking young children into getting changed or undressed on camera by playing a 'game' or issuing a 'challenge' to see how fast they can get changed into different clothes or into a swimming costume. This might happen over video chat or livestreaming app; children often don't even know this has happened; videos are often taken and then circulated.

The Internet Watch Foundation has identified an increase in this trend during 2020 (IWF annual report) - and it's important to recognise that this happens in regular, safe families, while parents are in the house...sometimes the analysts notice the recording ending when a child is called for dinner! So, this is something that affects all families. Read the IWF report above or these Case studies (also IWF) of real children affected by this abuse strategy (the youngest was 7 years old but even younger children can be affected.

What can we do?

Please share this page widely, sing the song and ask teachers and parents to add this simple online safety message to others already effectively communicated to many primary pupils. You may want to explain to others (send them here to <u>undressed.lgfl.net</u> if it is helpful) why this message is relevant to (especially) the youngest pupils who do not have the same capacity as older children to always realise when they are being tricked.

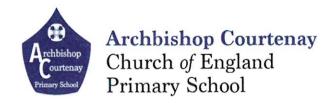
You will obviously need to be careful how you approach it (and if you aren't the designated safeguarding lead, speak to them first), but if the youngest children have already internalised this simple message, then hopefully we make a difference.











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More help for parents to help keep children safe:

Parents, please head to <u>parentsafe.lgfl.net</u> to find a portal we have made just for you with advice on a range of issues and signposting to resources from other great organisations.

Yours faithfully

Mrs. J. Bond

Deputy Headteacher







