

Technology



We live in a digital world and find even the little ones can swipe photos on a phone and love looking at their pictures in the camera's photo album – we know that there is a huge amount of useful and interesting information online. However, the World Wide Web can also be a dangerous place.

It is a requirement of our statutory framework, the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) that we ensure all children are offered the opportunity to explore, observe and find out about everyday technology. Babies might, for example, listen to music; toddlers might dance to songs they know or make music using an app; young children might listen to stories on the CBeebies website or use the microwave to do some cooking; older children might wish to use the internet to look up information related to homework or experiment with a metal detector.

We are committed to keeping children safe when they are using technology, both by securing the internet when they are in the setting and sharing information with parents about how to keep them safe at home. It is a requirement of the Prevent Duty that we keep children safe from radicalisation and extremism online – we do that by monitoring online usage and providing child-safe browsers such as Kiddle.

We have been advised by our Local Authority to share the following 'keeping children safe online' NSPCC online guidance with you –

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>.

Internet use while children are in the setting is limited and closely supervised. We secure all our internet enabled devices with passwords and these will be withdrawn if they are abused by, for example, using chat rooms, cyber-bullying, plagiarising music or accessing websites we have previously banned. However, if parents would rather their child was not allowed to use the computer on the internet without direct adult supervision, please discuss this with us.

Other technology the child accesses includes, for example, science experiments, reading books online, finding songs and rhymes on YouTube, interactive musical instruments, playing on the dance mat, toys with buttons and flaps that teach children about cause and effect and much more.

If you have any questions about how we use technology in the setting or keep your child safe online, please ask. Thank you.