# SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

**SPRING 2022 – Issue 2**

**Latest advice for Parents and Carers**

Welcome to the second edition of our new monthly newsletter that will keep you up to date with essential information regarding safeguarding. For our second issue, we will be focussing on gaming. Please remember that if you ever have a safeguarding concern regarding your child, or indeed another child, you can always speak to a member of our school's safeguarding team.

**Headteacher:** Jas Leverton
**Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Kimberly McKoy
**Deputy Safeguarding Officer/ Mental Health Lead:** Cassim Bana
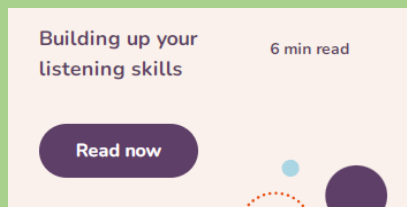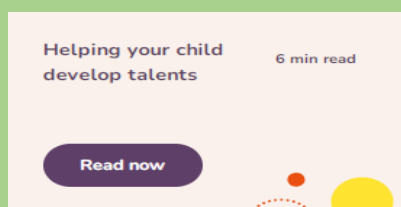**Designated Lead for Looked After Children:** Darshan Kaur
**Governors with Safeguarding Responsibility:** Sonia Gable and Marie Segal

# What is mental health?

We all have mental health. Your mental health affects how you feel, think and act. It refers to your emotional, psychological and social wellbeing. Your mental health can change on a daily basis and over time and can be affected by a range of factors.

## How can I help my child?

**Parenting Smart** is a hub of short, useful articles written by Place2Be's parenting experts. Each article, aimed at parents of children aged 5 to 11, shares practical advice on a number of different topics. Click on the images below for a short video and a quick read on the topic in each caption:

| Helping your child develop talents | 6 min read | Building up your listening skills | 6 min read | Supporting healthy gaming habits for children | 10 min read |
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| Read now | | Read now | | Read now | |

# Online SEND Conference

SEaTTS - Specialist Education and Training Support Service (S.E.a.T.S.S.) are hosting an Online SEND Conference with keynote speakers and workshops. The conference will cover many different topics for primary and secondary children. You can choose the sessions you would like to attend. Some of the topics are ADHD, Anxiety/School refusal and How to support your child with writing and spelling. Please see attached flyer for more topics and details.

Date: 30th March 2022, Time: 9.30am to 2.30pm (Online) and Cost - £20 (plus booking Fee)

# Tips For Playing Games Online

Make sure child's nickname does not include your:

- full name
- school's name
- date of birth
- address or the town you live
- mobile number
- If they able to use a profile picture, try using an avatar that doesn't show your face. If you do use a picture, think about whether it shows anything that could be used to identify you, like your school logo or your street name.
  Please click here for more advice and tips

# PEGI Age Ratings

Age ratings are systems used to ensure that entertainment content, such as games, but also films, tv shows or mobile apps, is clearly labelled with a minimum age recommendation based on the content they have. These age ratings provide guidance to consumers, parents in particular, to help them decide whether or not to buy a particular product for a child.

The PEGI rating considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. A PEGI 3 game will not contain any inappropriate content, but can sometimes be too difficult to master for younger children. Reversely, there are PEGI 18 games that are very easy to play, yet they contain elements that make them inappropriate for a younger audience.

## The PEGI APP

The PEGI app allows parents and gamers to easily search for video game and app rating information and read up on parental controls for all devices at home or on the move.

With this app the user is able to:
• Search through the PEGI database for up-to-date video game and app rating classifications.
• Filter results by age rating, genre and platform to find your perfect game.
• Read through detailed instructions on how to set up parental controls on a range of devices.
• Get tips for families about playing video games together.
• Read detailed descriptions on what the age ratings and the content descriptors mean.
You can find the app available for download here:     **Google Play**          **Apple Store**

Click the image below for detailed guidance in each category

# Safeguarding & Our Curriculum

As stated in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021', safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all practitioners should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child. We believe that it is in the best interests for our children to have opportunities to learn how to stay safe both in and outside of school. Therefore, safeguarding themes are weaved into lessons, across the wider curriculum, into assemblies and displayed as part of everyday life within our school. Here are just a few examples of ways we teach safeguarding at Cranbrook Primary School:

- Online safety lesson

- Healthy eating focus in science and technology

- Peer mentors
- School values

- PSHE / RSHE programmes delivered across the school, with assemblies focusing on school values and rights to respecting.

- Links with the NSPCC ('Speak Out / Stay Safe' visits)

- Local community representatives to support the curriculum such as PCSOs / Police / Fire Safety etc.

- Transition work from pre-school settings to Reception and Year 6 to Year 7.

- We encourage vulnerable children to participate in after school clubs and will help with funding as appropriate.

- We mark anti bullying week every November, and encourage children to contribute towards school policy and procedures regarding anti bullying.

- English lessons: many books used will have themes covering tolerance, mutual respect and democracy.

- Core values are used to promote rights and responsibilities. Teachers model these values and hold high expectations around the children displaying them when in school.

- Our School Council gives the opportunity to learn about different models of democracy and how to ensure we have a safe and productive environment in our school.

- Religious Education lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Children have the opportunity to visits places of worship that are important to different to faiths.

# What is Discord?

**Discord is a free online platform** (owned by Amazon) that hosts voice, video, and text chat.. It uses a simple design layout and is split up into online communities called **"servers".** All users can create their own server for free. They can be **public** (anyone can request to join) or **private** (requires an invitation from admin/moderators). Once granted access to a server, users can participate in an open chat with other users from all over the world. **Text**, **video**, and **voice chat** options are available. Discord's simple design and special interest categories are especially appealing to children and young people. However, this creates a prime environment for someone with harmful intentions to easily build rapport with a young person based on similar interests. **This creates the illusion of friendship and trust, and can lead to more serious consequences.** Click on the image below for brief guidance and advice to about Discord

**Discord**

**Quick safety how-to guide**
for parents & carers

# Pupil Voice

**This article is written by Luke and Ibrahim.**

**This article is to educate and inform both young people and parents/carers about how to stay safe online whilst gaming.**

Please note – PEGI means Pan European Game Information which is a European rating system to help European consumers know the age restriction of the application (App).

• When joining a website, make sure you are playing on a trusted one, to make sure, check if it has https:// or a padlock sign to the left of the website name.

• Next, make sure you have a safe username (which is not your real name) and a secure password so no hackers or cyber-criminals are able to hack your profile/ account.

• If someone wants to try and be your online friend, make sure you know them in real life (with parents knowledge) and if someone uses bad language, report them straight away and use the Zip it, Block it, Flag it guidance.

• You need to keep safe online as many people use it (approximately 4.66 billion users) and young people are more likely to be targeted by scammers or untrustworthy users as young people are at risk due to their innocence and naivety.

# Useful Links

**How to set up your child's new devices**

**Parental control step by step guide**

**The 6 apps and services that every parent should know about**