



12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA
Phone: (028) 3026 62175

29 April 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Throughout this year I have been shocked by the online activity of increasing numbers of our pupils. I have had to allocate a large part of my time to dealing with situations arising from inappropriate use of the internet within the home setting. Our children are presenting in school with a level of 'X rated knowledge' that I have never seen before. When I have contacted parents the outcome has typically been that they are shocked and have had no idea that their child was accessing such material. They have also felt overwhelmed at the prospect of what they would need to know and do to protect their child.

As a result of my very real concern, we are holding a **Parent Online Safety Workshop** in school on **Wednesday 8th May at 1:30 pm.**

This workshop is being held jointly by **O2 and the NSPCC** who are on a mission to help all children and their families in the UK stay safe online. Together, they're offering useful tools, support and guidance to help parents and carers have frequent conversations with their children about their online lives.

The **hour-long workshop** will help parents, carers and other adults:

1. Understand their child's online world.
2. Build confidence to have those important conversations that can help keep children safe online.
3. Help you know where to go for help and advice.

"After coming to this workshop today, I realise the importance of having conversations with my child rather than avoid the subject. I didn't know there were things I could do to make it better, I'm so glad I came to this workshop. I will definitely be calling the helpline or going into store to get some help, thank you." – Parent who attended the workshop

Don't miss out on this great opportunity. RSVP by returning the reply slip below.

Until then, if you need any support or guidance about keeping children safe online, here are a few things you could do:

- Visit the [NSPCC](#) and [O2 NSPCC website pages](#).
- Call the free **O2 NSPCC Online Safety Helpline** on **0808 800 5002**.
- Download the Net Aware app on the App Store or Google Play.

Having hosted similar workshops before that had extremely poor levels of parental attendance, I urge a heartfelt invitation to you. Please attend - if you are allowing your child access to internet at home you **MUST** ensure that you are informed regarding potential threats and the steps you as a parent need to take.

I remain yours in partnership,
A very worried Principal

Mrs M Monaghan
ST CLARE'S ABBEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Please return to Class Teacher:

I, parent of _____ in Primary _____ class, will/will not attend the

Parent Online Safety Workshop on Wednesday 8 May 2019 @ 1.30 pm in St Clare's Abbey Primary School.