



SHAWLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

SHAW STREET

BARNESLEY

S70 6JL

TEL 01226 287177

Head Teacher: Mrs C. Athorn

Email: C.Athorn@shawlandsprimaryschool.co.uk

Website: www.shawlandsprimaryschool.co.uk

29.01.2026

Online Safety

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to share a reminder about the importance of online safety and the valuable role parents and carers play in supporting children's use of phones, tablets, games consoles, and online platforms.

Children today have easy access to online games, messaging apps, and social media. While many of these can be enjoyable and positive, we are finding that more of our children, here at Shawlands, are being exposed to content, conversations, or online disagreements that may not always be appropriate for their age.

We encourage parents and carers to:

- Be aware of what your child is watching, playing, and communicating with
- Set clear and age-appropriate limits on screen time, including before bedtime
- Monitor games, apps, and online interactions regularly
- Use parental controls or monitoring tools to help support safe and responsible use (for example, using tools such as Google Family Link)

We have noticed that some online disagreements or incidents that take place outside of school are being brought into school the following day. These situations can be upsetting for children and can take time to support, which may impact learning and wellbeing. While we will always support children's wellbeing in school, it is important to clarify that the school finds it difficult to investigate or resolve incidents that occur online outside of school hours or on personal devices. These matters are best addressed at home with parental support and guidance.

Please also know that, if school is made aware of online content or incidents that raise safeguarding concerns, we have a duty of care to act. This may include sharing information with appropriate external services, such as Children's Social Care or the Police, in line with our safeguarding responsibilities.

Where parents can get advice and support (UK) The following trusted organisations provide practical guidance on online safety, parental controls, and supporting children's digital wellbeing:

- NSPCC
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- Childnet
<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>
- Internet Matters

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

• UK Safer Internet Centre

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

• CEOP

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/>

By working together to set boundaries and monitor online activity, we can help children develop healthy digital habits, reduce fall outs, and ensure that school time remains focused on learning and positive relationships.

The school is always available to give advice and support to parents and carers regarding online safety and digital wellbeing.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children safe.

All information can be found on our website: <https://shawlandsprimaryschool.co.uk/e-safety/>

Kind regards,

Mrs Pease

Assistant Headteacher