

## How your child uses ICT at school.

ICT in schools is taught as a subject in its own right and also supports children's learning in other subjects, including English and Mathematics. Within ICT lessons, children learn to use a wide range of ICT including:

- **Word Processing** to write stories, poems or letters
- **Databases** to record information, e.g. minibeasts
- **Spreadsheets** to create tables, charts and graphs
- **Desktop Publishing** to design posters, leaflets or cards
- **Multimedia Presentation** to present text, pictures, sound and video
- **Drawing Programs** to create pictures and designs
- **Internet and CD-ROMs** to find information
- **Email** to contact children and teachers in another school
- **Digital Cameras** to record what they have done in class or on a visit
- **Electronic Sensors** to record changes in light, sound and temperature
- **Controllable Robots** to give instructions and make something happen
- **Simulations** to explore real and imaginary situations

## How you can help your child at home.

ICT is not just about using a computer. It also includes the use of controllable toys, digital cameras and everyday equipment such as a tape recorder or DVD player.

Children can be helped to develop their ICT skills at home by:

- writing a letter to a relative
- sending an email to a friend
- drawing a picture on screen
- using the Internet to research a class topic

## How we know that using ICT at home can help.

Many studies have looked at the benefits of having access to a computer and/or the Internet at home. Here are some of the key findings:

- used effectively, ICT can improve children's achievement
- using ICT at home and at school develops skills for life
- children with supportive and involved parents and carers do better at school
- children enjoy using ICT
- using ICT provides access to a wider and more flexible range of learning materials.



**E-Safety information  
for parents of  
Denbigh Community  
Primary School**

## Start by talking it over.



The use of information and communication technologies in schools brings great benefits. Recognising the eSafety issues and planning accordingly will help to ensure appropriate, effective and safe use of the Internet for your child. There are a wide variety of websites with information to help guide you listed on the back page.

One of the simplest things you can do is to place your computer in a family area. Keep computers and games consoles with Internet access out of the bedroom. Remember if your child is posting pics or using the webcam in their school uniform, it's a real giveaway of their location. Ask your children to show you what they are doing and who they are talking to when they are online. It needn't be heavy handed, but if you get into the habit your children will know that you are taking an interest and feel more confident in letting you know if something feels wrong.

A good place to start a discussion is with the Smart Rules.



## Search Safely.

Google is a great search engine but it may not be suitable for young children.

Try [kidrex.org](http://kidrex.org) or [kiddle.co](http://kiddle.co).

Image searches can be very risky, instead try the kid-friendly [www.picsearch.com](http://www.picsearch.com).

One of the best online resources for parents is the [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) website. Sign up for the parents newsletter, have a look around and then try out some of the resources with your children. If you feel uncomfortable about something that happens online you can report it here too.

Also, try typing **CEOP into YouTube** to see their videos.

Another good place to visit is [www.kidsmart.org.uk](http://www.kidsmart.org.uk).

You'll find plenty of well presented information on online games, some quizzes to help build your knowledge and information on how you leave a digital footprint on the Internet wherever you go.

## Social Media.

Although the majority of social media websites carry a rating of 13+, we are aware that many children in a primary setting do have access to these sites. Whilst we cannot and do not promote their use, we have to ensure children and parents are educated in their safe use. Therefore, if your child is using social networking sites or chat systems, encourage them to use an anonymous nickname. Remind them not to post anything that will identify them, their location, school or other personal details. Ask them if they have made their online profile private, so that only their friends can see it. Encourage them to use their school email account at home because it's carefully monitored. Ensure you have the password.

Take a look at our website for links to information on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Google +.

<http://denhighps.org.uk/online-safety-parents/>



Scan to visit DCPS Online Safety page.

