Dear Parents and Carers;

RE: Online Safety During School Closure

During this school closure it is highly likely that your child will be online considerably more than normal, either learning online, playing games or using social media. It is therefore important to make sure they are safe online.

Keeping Safe
Below are some links to places that can help you understand ways in which you can keep your child safe online and where you can report concerns.

• Thinkuknow provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) on staying safe online

• Parent info is a collaboration between Parentzone and the NCA providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations

• Childnet offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support

• Internet matters provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world

• London Grid for Learning has support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online, including tips to keep primary aged children safe online

• Net-aware has support for parents and carers from the NSPCC, including a guide to social networks, apps and games

• Let's Talk About It has advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation

• UK Safer Internet Centre has tips, advice, guides and other resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online services

Social Media and Online Bullying
There will also be concerns about messaging between pupils, from both in school and from other schools. This means that there may be worries about online bullying or sharing of inappropriate pictures or videos. By inappropriate we mean anything that is not age appropriate, this could include but is not limited to pictures or videos containing violence, nudity, swearing, cruelty to animals or bullying messages.

In any circumstance where a parent is concerned, we encourage ALL parents and carers to report any online bullying or sharing of inappropriate material to the police, as do other schools during this time. If you feel that your child has received anything of this nature we encourage you to call 101. Similarly, if your child has been sending such material it could be that the police may call you about this situation. Please help us keep your children as safe as possible during this difficult time.