

21 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 7 OSA Certificate in Online Safety

As part of the Department of Education June 2019 "Teaching Online Safety at School" and the "Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education" curriculum which is compulsory in all schools (links to government publications below), I am writing to inform you that all Year 7 students will be completing the OSA Certificate of Online Safety.

It is essential that schools and families are confident that their children know how to be safe and responsible users of the Internet and the OSA Certificate of Online Safety provides valid and tangible evidence that our pupils have received and understood how to stay safe online, what to do if things go wrong, and what the possible consequences of bad choices could be. It has been mapped against the DFE guidance to ensure it covers all necessary elements.

The content is delivered online, it will initially be completed in your child's Computer Science lessons and then independently as home learning during Term 1 and Term 2. The online platform provides full access to all learning materials required to complete the course, including high quality animated videos, presentations and summary documents. All assessment is carried out online, with pupils able to progress at their own pace by taking tests when they feel ready.

The OSA Certificate has age-appropriate content which includes:

- Online bullying
- Grooming including radicalisation
- Sexting and use of personal images
- Live streaming
- Health issues (mental and physical)
- Digital footprint management
- Identifying fake news
- Impact of influencers
- Consequences of poor choices
- Reporting concerns and seeking support

If you have any questions regarding the online safety curriculum or would like further information please email <u>kcorneby@wealdgs.org</u>

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Corneby Head of Computer Science

Links to Department of Education Publications:

<u>Teaching Online Safety in School</u> <u>Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education RSE and Health Education</u>

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