

# Online Safety resources for Early Years children

Over the past 14 months, technology has been fundamental in keeping everyday life going. Children have been able to continue learning whilst not attending school via the internet. As fantastic as the internet is, it comes with risks, and ensuring children are safe whilst accessing it is of paramount importance. Below are some resources that can be used to support younger children's understanding of online safety.

## The Adventures of Smartie the Penguin

A story about online safety designed for 3-7 year olds that follows Smartie as he encounters problems in the online world. The story includes a song helping children to remember the importance of telling an adult if they come across an issue online and there are two versions of the story:

- Story One covers: pop ups and in-app purchasing inappropriate websites for older children - online bullying
- Story Two covers: upsetting images unreliable information talking to strangers online

Associated resources include lesson plan, colouring activities and other age appropriate activities.

https://www.childnet.com/resources/smartie-the-penguin

#### **Digiduck Stories**

The Digiduck collection, designed for 3-7 year olds, helps educate children about friendship, responsibility and critical thinking online. Free to download as PDFs or to read online.

**Digiduck's Famous Friend** - Digiduck and his classmates have been set the task of finding out who will be their special guest at school by chatting and asking questions online.

Digiduck's Big Decision - Digiduck has been sent a funny picture of his friend and wonders whether or not he should post it online. A wise owl comes to show him what might happen if he does.





https://www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories/

**The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Partnership** also has resources to help children's awareness. Each year the LSCP supports the national Safer Internet Day Campaign. This year they have made use of national, recognisable resources that have been produced by the UK Safer Internet Centre.

This resource pack contains links to social media posts and supporting infographics. We would encourage you to make use of these across all social media platforms that are available to you. The national pack also includes links to videos and other targeted resources.

## Objectives:

- to raise the awareness of key messages relating to safe internet use and the reliability of online information
- to raise awareness of the resources available to support children, young people and families
- to raise awareness of the resources available to support professionals working with children/young people

#### Toolkit:

- UK Safer Internet Centre social media pack and associated resources
- <u>LSCP multi-agency training</u> generic e-learning is available, entitled "e-safety", and training for professionals working with families is available, entitled "online safety"
- Stay Safe Partnership resources for parents, schools, children and young people
- <u>LSCP YouTube Channel</u> includes pre-recorded information videos related to internet safety
- Parental controls from Internet Matters



#### **Useful websites**

- www.stopitnow.org.uk
- www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety
- https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/pre-school/parent-support-forearly-years/

### More information





