ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

incorporating

WEST CUMBRIA CATHOLIC SIXTH FORM CENTRE

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL RED LONNING WHITEHAVEN CA28 8UG

Head Teacher: EMMA JACKSON

18th November 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,



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Web: www.st-benedicts.cumbria.sch.uk

Online Safety: Online Chat Sites

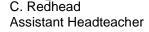
I would like to make you aware of a website called Omegle. Omegle is a website that pairs random strangers for live text or video chats. It launched in 2009 and its slogan is "Talk to strangers!" There is an option for adult (18+) content and a section for people aged 13+ with parental permission. Anyone can use the site. Users simply go to Omegle.com and then choose 'Text' or 'Video' chat and the page states how many users are currently online. Depending on the time of day this can be hundreds of thousands. Omegle markets itself as a great way to meet new friends however has been known to feature pornography and inappropriate content within chats, so it's important parents are aware of the risks associated with the site.

Recently, we have become aware that some of our students have been using this website. In school we promote the dangers and risks involved in using sites like these. Children can easily be groomed and led on.

In addition to the awareness raising in school, could I ask that you discuss the potential dangers of sites like these with your child. On the following page I have included an information sheet which gives you more guidance on this site, to allow you to have an informed conversation.

Our school website hosts a digital copy of this guidance too if you find it easier to read online. https://www.st-benedicts.cumbria.sch.uk/

Yours faithfully













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What parents need to know about



NO AGE VERIFICATION MEASURES



RISK OF CYBERBULLYING



UNMODERATED CHAT

PRIVACY RISK VIA FACEBOOK



RISK OF EXPLOITATION



ADULT THEMED CONTENT













DISCUSS RISKS WITH YOUR CHILD



PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION



REPORT CONCERNS

If your child comes across any inappropriate content or something which upsets them on Omegle, then it's important that they are able to discuss it with you and that you provide them with the support they need. If you think the content is illegal, then it must be resorted to



DISCOURAGE VIDEO CHAT



TRY OMEGLE YOURSELF



USE PARENTAL CONTROLS



Meet our expert

anathan Taylor is an online safety expert and former vert internet investigator for the Metropolitan lice. He is a specialist in online grooming and ploitation and has worked extensively with both and international schools in delivering training d guidance around the latest online dangers, social adia apps and platforms.











