

### **Student online Safety**

E-Safety is a very wide topic area in that it not only includes internet technologies but also electronic communications such as online gaming, mobile phones, etc. Within schools, children and young people need to know about the benefits, risks and responsibilities of using communication technology. At Balance AP, we are committed to demonstrating safe use of IT and have successfully installed “Safe Search Kids” on all our PCs that are used by students. This programme is locked onto Google and therefore helps to monitor their activities on these devices. We also ensure staff are always highly alert, particularly when students are using these devices. We do not allow the use of mobile phones and other personal devices on site, as detailed in the provision’s Behaviour Policy.

E-Safety concerns itself with educating students appropriate use of the digital world while emphasising the learning benefits which can be achieved when used in a positive way. Although viewed as just something that focuses on restriction, E-Safety is more about giving young people an education about the benefits and potential risks in order for them to be comfortable and confident online. It is focussed on providing a base of support that can aid in the development of safer online behaviours, both in and out of the school environment. We endeavour to provide this education through our PSHE work in the classroom.