

“It takes a whole community, to bring up a child”



Ark Boulton Academy



Private and confidential

March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are really proud that we have been able to provide our students with a Chromebook to support their learning at home. We are also pleased that we can reassure you – as parents and carers – that **the Chromebook we have provided is a safe way for your child to access online learning and use the Internet to support their progress.**

As we head towards the Easter break, I wanted to highlight the e-safety and monitoring that is in place on all Chromebooks provided by the school. Each Chromebook has built in monitoring via an app called SENSO, which monitors the websites that your child is accessing and checks what they are typing on the keyboard or searching for online. This is **an extra safeguard** that we provide, alongside:

- Blocking websites that may be inappropriate
- Restricting access to video sites such as YouTube
- Removing access to games
- Restricting usage of the Chromebook from 8pm to 7am

You can feel confident that a Chromebook is a secure device and that if your child types in, searches for, or accesses anything inappropriate on their school Chromebook, it is logged. Importantly, this monitoring is in place during the school holidays and at weekends, as well as during school time.

In some cases, where we think that a child might be at risk because of something they have typed or seen online, we may want to follow up quickly. From now, the app (SENSO), will send a pop-up notification on the screen for your child, signposting them to access external support agencies – providing phone numbers and links. If this happens outside of school time, we will respond once we return to school.

The safety and wellbeing of your child remains our utmost priority, and we want to make sure you have all the information you need on how to keep them safe online. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the academy at info@arkboulton.org. You can also find hints and tips on how to help your child to manage their time and safety online here <https://www.ark-spark.co.uk/parent-information>.

Kind regards

Ark Boulton Academy

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“Growing together, reaching higher”