Internet and Social Media Safety Policy

The internet is an incredible resource for children to access, support for their homework, chatting to friends etc., but it can also be a very dangerous place for them. They can be exposed to inappropriate material, harassment and bullying, viruses and hackers and be conned into giving away financial information. They can also be vulnerable to on-line grooming.   
  
We offer children the opportunity to use the computer and the internet however we have introduced a range of procedures to ensure their safety.   
  
We have a filter on our computer that blocks out most inappropriate material   
We do not permit the children to go onto chat rooms   
We do not allow children to access e-mails or Facebook etc in the setting   
We talk to the children about the websites they are using   
We are always nearby so can keep an eye out on what websites they are visiting   
We check the history on the computer regularly   
  
We discuss with the children about the importance of keeping safe on line, not forwarding on chain letters, not talking to people they don't know, not giving out personal information that could enable people to identify them, to tell us if they are worried about anything and to never arrange to meet anyone they have spoken to online.   
  
Children are not allowed to use the webcam.   
If you would rather your child was not allowed access to the internet, then please let us know.   
We are also aware of the need to limit the time children spend on computers and will develop strategies to ensure that they spend a balance of time engaged in ICT and other activities. Children do have access to tablets and games consoles that are connected to the internet. These are monitored in the same way.

To protect all families and staff we do not allow parents to be added on our personal social media pages whilst the children attend the setting. Jenny does use Social media to advertise the setting and conversations are made regarding the setting and viewings via the messenger section. Jenny is also happy to be contacted via any messenger systems including WhatsApp, please keep this within the hours of 7am and 9pm Monday to Friday unless it’s an emergency.

We build strong relationships with our families and love to see how the children grow after they’ve left us so once our professional relationship ends we are more than happy to receive friend requests, though it is then the decision of each member of staff whether they are comfortable to accept these. If staff and families are already linked prior to the child attending the setting it will need to be raised with the setting manager and a judgment will be made whether they can remain linked while the child attends.