

Online safety

Letchmore Infants' and Nursery School



- Children and young people are growing up in a world of developing and ever-changing technology. We recognise that technology provides positive opportunities for children and young people to learn, socialise and play. However, we must be aware and understand the risks that come with this.
- Children and young people are online more than ever before as technology continues to grow.
- Not only are children spending more time online, but the lines between online and offline is becoming blurred.
- Children 7-16 who use the internet say that they spend almost five hours a day online.
- Half of ten-year-olds now own their own mobile phone.

- It is important to be aware of the games your child is playing and content they are accessing.
- It is important to check the PEGI rating (Pan European Gaming Information) system. It is the standardised way of providing games with an age-appropriate rating in the UK and Europe. This is a recommendation.
- Ultimately, the games you let your child use should be a decision which you make, based on what you understand of the game's content and functionalities.
- Popular games we often hear about in and the PEGI ratings:
 - Minecraft 7+
 - Roblox 7+
 - Fortnite 12+
 - Mario Kart 5+

Although some of these games are 5+ please be aware of any games that enable chat functions online and privacy settings.



- YouTube is easily accessible for everyone. Although it can be great for finding a range of learning videos, music and stories. It is important to watch the videos before sharing these with your child/ren.
- To create an account, you need to be 13+. However, you do not need an account to watch videos on the platform.
- You may have also heard of 'YouTube Kids' which is targeted from 4-12. Although this may limit some content, it is important to be **aware it is not entirely safe**. It is not monitored, and videos are not filtered. Therefore, if you are using this, it is important to monitor and to still have parental controls on.

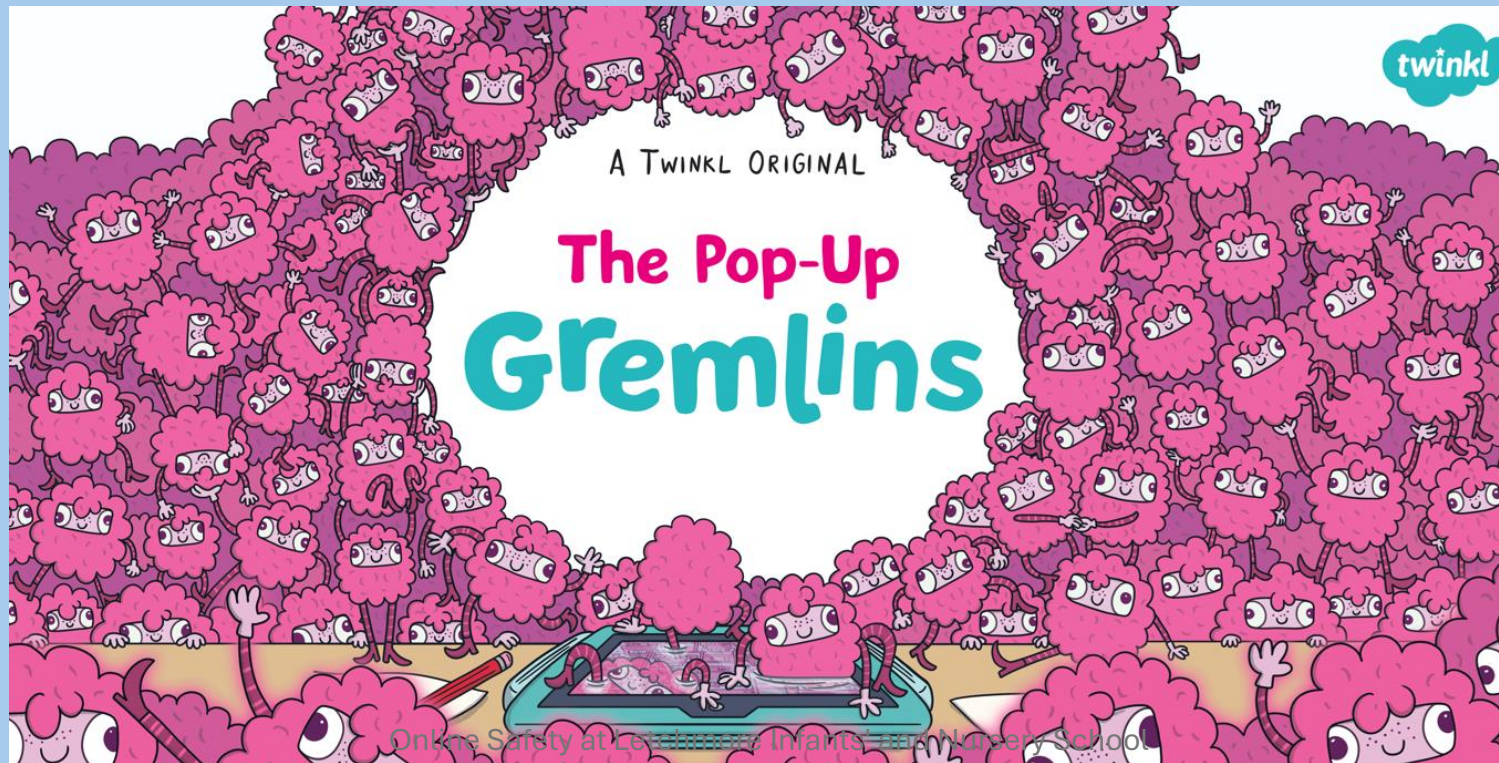
Please click on the link below for further information relating to the safety of using YouTube.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/how-to-keep-your-child-safe-on-youtube/>

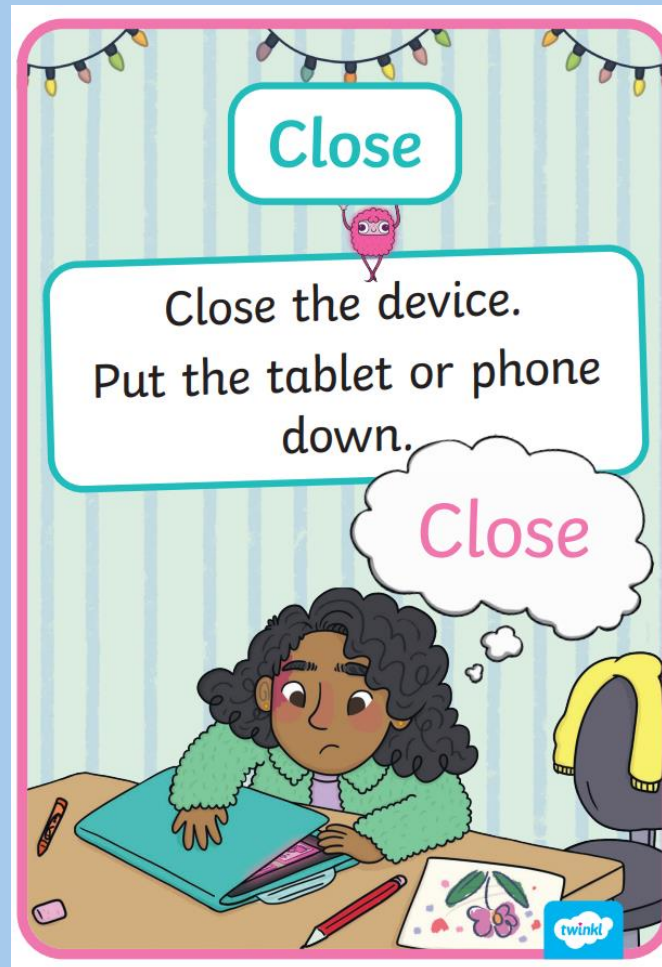


Online safety at Letchmore

- At Letchmore, we fully embed online safety throughout our curriculum at an age-appropriate level. We have an online safety day every year and follow the national theme for this.
- We also have an online safety policy which all staff, governors and visitors will be made aware of.
- Please find the policy on our school website for further information.
- This year our theme was 'too good to be true' and we held online safety day on Tuesday 11th February.
- We used a child friendly story from Twinkl called 'The Pop-up Gremlins' and adapted this according to year groups.



- The story focused on a young girl who noticed a pop-up which she clicked on. Unfortunately, this then enabled lots of pink gremlins to take over her screen!
- We discussed that pop-ups may sound exciting or offer free things, but it is important not to press these and instead you must; Stop, Close and Tell. Please discuss this message with your child/ren.



Useful websites and resources to support online safety

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025/tips-for-parents-and-carers>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://swgfl.org.uk/>