

15 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

At the start of the academic year, the Department for Education updated its guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), to strengthen schools' responsibilities to limit children's exposure to risks from schools' IT systems.

In order to meet these requirements, additional safeguards were added to all school devices and student accounts at the start of term, including any school-issued device a student may take home for remote learning. This software now monitors and logs children's internet searches and alerts the school where concerning content has been searched/accessed, for example, radicalisation, self harm/suicide and sexual exploitation. This additional layer of protection means prompt action can be taken to safeguard the young person, ensure that concerns can be investigated and web monitoring and filtering software can be updated to protect children. Where appropriate, we will contact you if we are concerned about your child's online safety.

For more information about the use of filtering and monitoring, please refer to the Child Safeguarding Policy available on our [website](#). The use of this software is covered by the ICT Acceptable Use Policy which can be found in your child's planner.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ian Simpson, Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Yours faithfully,



Alison McQueen
Principal
OA Shafton