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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & WELLBEING - JUNIOR SCHOOL

In today's digital world, children are spending more time online than ever before — whether it's for school, entertainment, or connecting with friends. While the internet offers incredible opportunities to learn and grow, it also comes with risks such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and contact with strangers. That's why it's so important for adults to play an active role in helping children stay safe online.

One of the most powerful things adults can do is create an open and trusting environment. Children need to know they can come to a parent, teacher, or other trusted adult if something online makes them feel scared, confused, or uncomfortable. These conversations don't have to be formal—just asking kids about what they do online and who they interact with can make a big difference.

It's also crucial to teach children to recognize red flags. If someone asks them to keep secrets, share personal information, or sends them messages that feel wrong, they should know these are signs to talk to an adult immediately. Letting kids know it's okay to speak up—even if they're not sure something is wrong—helps them build confidence in their own judgment.

Ultimately, keeping kids safe online is a team effort. When adults stay involved, stay informed, and encourage open communication, children are much more likely to make smart choices and reach out when they need help. By being present and supportive, adults can help ensure the internet remains a place of discovery and learning—not danger.

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