



Tarves Primary School
Duthie Road
Tarves, Ellon
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Tel. 01651 267445
tarves.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Friday 11th September 2020 - Health and Wellbeing/Internet Safety

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you all to highlight the need to prioritise the Health and Wellbeing of our pupils and as a Tarves community. The effects of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic on our children manifest themselves in many different ways. At this time, more than ever, we need to work together as a home-school team to share information to support our children. Please make us aware of any home changes which may have an impact on your son/daughter so that we may direct support accordingly.

I will also take this opportunity to remind you of the procedures for contacting the school, should the need arise. All correspondence, including messages for Class Teachers, should come via the main school office. Please email tarves.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or phone us on 01651 267445. We are here to help wherever possible and I would encourage parents to contact the school first, should any issues arise between pupils.

Our pupils represent Tarves Primary at all times, whether this be in or out of school hours, face-to-face or online, and they have been reminded that the way in which they conduct themselves is important. Due to the recent events, our children have spent an increased amount of time online behind a screen, whether learning virtually, gaming or socialising, which has had both positive and negative effects on their wellbeing.

I would strongly urge parents/carers to frequently check your son/daughter's device, should they have access to one, and closely monitor their usage. You may already be aware of some graphic, disturbing videos currently circulating the TikTok platform, but have spread to many others including Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp and Snapchat, to name but a few. These Apps do have an age restriction, however, I know some of our pupils have accounts with or without parental consent. Our job as parents/carers and teachers is to educate our children to use the internet and gaming responsibly and respectfully, but also to be aware of the information they share with others online. This has been discussed in detail with children in our Upper stages of the school this week.

Some helpful websites which may be of interest to you are listed below:

ThinkUKnow: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>
Childline: <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/>
ParentZone (CEOP): <https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/>
NSPCC: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you require further information or wish to discuss anything with us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Lara Conn
Head Teacher