



10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Parent or Carer,

Village Primary School and the Thornaby Neighbourhood Policing Team are working together to raise awareness about the appropriate use of the internet and keeping pupils safe. As we all know, we now live in a world where young people are enjoying the modern age of the internet and technology. The availability and affordability of mobile phones, smart phones and other devices which access the internet means that young people are never far away from being 'on line'. Within seconds a status can be updated, a comment liked, a photo shared, plus many other things. We also see, almost on a monthly basis, the birth of a new social media site to attract young people.

Sadly, not all young people protect themselves online and many take risks. Are you happy that your child has the appropriate security settings? Are you happy and comfortable with the social media site they are using? Is their profile as restricted for viewing as it should be? Do you know what they are viewing and sharing online?

On 20.3.17, PCSO Jane Gibson from Thornaby Police Station is delivering an assembly to your children regarding the growing concerns and issues around internet safety, in particular spotting the early signs of manipulative, pressurising and threatening behaviour by people they meet online. PCSO Gibson will also talk about developing their confidence to respond safely and how to get help.

We would appreciate your help in keeping your children safe online by getting involved at home. Below is a link that you can watch with your child that shows all three brief episodes of Play, Like, Share [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/playlikeshare](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/playlikeshare).

It's a great idea for you to watch each episode with your child after they have viewed it in school (to avoid spoiling any surprises!) and to have conversations with them about the subjects covered. You will also find plenty of advice and support about keeping your child safe online at the Thinkuknow Website, [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents).

I hope we can all work together to keep our young people safe online. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact PCSO Jane Gibson on 07595010775 or alternatively contact the school.

Yours Sincerely

PCSO Jane Gibson  
8594

Mrs Park  
Head Teacher