Parent/Carer engagement- What has worked for you?

We have gathered the feedback from primary, secondary and special school colleagues.

Here are some suggestions about how to engage more parents and carers with 'online safety'. Many of these suggestions seek to utilise events and communication pathways that an educational establishment has in place. The intention is not to add to your workload or the school diary.

- Questionnaires that gathers the thoughts and perceptions of parents/carers (this could be designed by pupils or pupils and their parents- homework task). Use O365 /GSuite app to create online questionnaire and send link to parents/carers. Set up questionnaire for pupils first and they can encourage their parents/carers to complete their own. Share results and use results to target online safety focus

- Bespoke session held at 9:00 or 2:00 (whilst parents/carers are at school) Bespoke session held in the evening for working parents/carers

- Include information, as a standing item, in your regular newsletters, curriculum information letters, school website, texts. Encourage them to take responsibility for the 'online' activity of their children

- Parents evenings: set up a stand or 'market stall' with information. Pupil representatives of the school council, e-safety committee or digital leaders could take responsibility for engaging with the parents/carers

- Parents evenings: involve key professionals (DSL, school nurse, police) at an advertised 'drop in session'. Locate these professionals in a visible area that parents/carers must pass through

- Bespoke online safety newsletter at the beginning/end of the academic year

- Bespoke session, which could be delivered by pupils, on a theme that 'sparks the interest' of adults *i.e. cyberfraud, password security, online scams, phishing emails*

- Coffee and chat afternoon

- Utilise parent workshops that may have another curriculum theme. Weave in online safety information *i.e. Literacy focus- focus on the plausibility of online information and web sites that promote extreme or negative views. Look at the URL-is it a trusted site? Equate this to online shopping/banking*

- Stickers/posters on windows/doors that are visible to parents/carers *i.e. classroom window, 'have you checked your passwords are safe?'*

- Pupils being the facilitators/experts creating presentations that can be shared with their parents/carers

- Include online safety input at induction/parent introduction events- year 6/7, nursery/reception

- Pupils lead assemblies where parents/carers are invited. Have a rolling programme of online safety themes during an academic year
  Invite external speakers to support the key messages i.e. police, school nurse, governor, member of staff from feeder school, NSPCC
  http://www.childnet.com/ufiles/online-safety-calendar-2017-2019.pdf

- Parent/carer/ grandparents 'workshops' on particular Apps or social media sites lead by pupils and/or staff

- Pupils produce magazines or newsletters that include 'online safety' information or news

- Include online safety snippets at 'film nights' or 'family/friend events *i.e. show an e-safety video before the film, during film night*

- Use posters/leaflets that target themes at specific times of the year. Pupils could design these or use the link below
  https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/parent-online-support-pack-teachers/ *i.e. before Christmas, focus on age appropriate games*

- Set homework with an online safety focus, requiring input from parents/carers *i.e. What Apps does my mum use? What Apps does my dad use?*

- Display information in main foyer, reception area, TV screen. Ensure leaflets and booklets are placed on tables in areas where parents/carers may gather

- Promote/support online safety courses for parents/carers *i.e. Digital Eagles - Barclays, BT https://www.barclays.co.uk/digital-confidence/eagles/* http://home.bt.com/tech-gadgets/computing-01398835177105

- Online agreements placed in pupil planners/homework diaries which need to be signed by parents/carers

- Coffee and chat afternoon

- Utilise your 'official social media sites/feeds' *i.e. tweet links to information/trends/campaigns that have relevance to adults*

- Have a standing item at events that have a high parent/carer engagement *i.e. school productions, assemblies, parent evenings/afternoons, INSPIRE workshops*