

Preparatory subject knowledge

These sessions have been created to ensure that our children can be safe using new, mobile technology. A lot of the content relates directly to how we use smartphones, but it also applies to online safety. You will find that the content of each session has a number of recurring messages to promote good practice and safety through risk assessment and awareness.

The sessions are intended to give the teacher the subject knowledge and to be able to talk and teach with some expetise. They are not strictly lesson plans because can be 'owned' by the teacher. They do not require a set format or follow a standard lesson structure, which means that the resources, images and the teaching and learning methods can be chosen by the teacher themselves. Good teaching comes from knowing your class and how best they learn.

Some of the points and content need to be carefully presented so that the learning does not deviate. This is similar to sex and relationship or drugs education schemes. We need to empower the children without distressing them. Therefore, any unwanted questions or comments must be managed properly as they could also lead to safeguarding disclosures. You would need to set some rules and expectations before you begin and ensure that if any child is worried, that you have the proper safeguarding protocols.

Learning context



This gives the teacher the purpose for the lesson and the big picture. It's important that we know 'why' this learning is valuable.

Key points and content



This tells us what this session is about. It will have some critical points that require coverage.

This is important because



To make sure that the children engage, we now need to present the information with personal value to them.

Investigate



This allows the class to find facts, hypothesize and generate ideas together, rather than just be told.

The risks

This part offers a danger story. It may be that this needs to be handled with care and that the information is sensitive. Remember to relate this information to safety, and that although the story may be sad, it helps us to fully understand the consequences. Be wary of disclosures or children wanting to talk more about the story. It is valuable to know what can happen, but the session needs to stay focused on the main objective. You may want to mention that this can be worst case scenario, and not a common occurrence.

Activity



We may be learning about technology, but we're not using any phones or computers. These activities are all about talking, working together and learning before being online.

Summary



As we summarise the session, we can take the opportunity to offer reassurances and context. Do not to leave the session with children worry. Instead, let's make sure that they feel wiser and more savvy about the online world.

The benefits



We have the risks, and we have the benefits. This content reassures us that technology can be amazing when used properly. It's a good way to make sure that the teaching concludes with a happy ending!