



Ballyclare Secondary School

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Principal: Mrs K O Bell BA Adv Cert Ed PQH

10th May 2024

**RE: LAUNCH OF THE SAFEGUARDING BOARD FOR NORTHERN IRELAND'S (SBNI)
ONLINE SAFETY HUB**

Dear parent/carer,

In recent times, the *Education Minister* has written to schools regarding the launch of SBNI's Online Safety Hub which has been delivered as part of the Executive's "Keeping Children and Young People Safe: An Online Safety Strategy" led by the Department of Health.

The protection of our children and young people is paramount and this includes the online world they are part of. The *Education Minister* has encouraged schools to make full use of the Online Safety Hub in our education setting and to also promote its use amongst staff, parents and our children and young people.

The hub is split into two sections, one for adults and one for young people. It brings together expert advice and resources from a range of member and partner organisations so that audiences can easily access learning and support in one central place.

The Hub is easily accessible and includes assistive software to reach diverse audiences, featuring text-to-speech, reading and translation support and can be found at: Online Safety Hub - Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland (safeguardingni.org).

This summer term and beyond, staff will be accessing these resources to bolster the preventative curriculum that is already well-established in our school. I encourage all parents and carers to take time to access this Online Safety Hub.

Yours faithfully,

A. Nicholl (Mr)
Vice Principal – Pastoral Care (Acting)
Designated Teacher of Child Protection

