











Parents' Online Safety Information

	<p>NSPCC/O₂ Parents online safety Helpline Free service to give advice to parents Tel: 0808 8005002</p>
	<p>Childline Private and confidential service for children and young people up to the age of nineteen to find advice and discuss issues with counsellors. www.childline.org.uk/ Tel: 0800 1111</p>
	<p>NSPCC NetAware Advice for parents particularly aimed at those with children aged 8-12 years old. https://www.net-aware.org.uk/</p>
	<p>Internet Matters Advice for parents of children of all ages – learn about it, talk about it, deal with it www.internetmatters.org/</p>
	<p>Common Sense Media Detailed reviews on games, website and apps with the aim of helping parents make informed decisions about whether they are suitable for their children https://www.commonsensemedia.org/</p>
	<p>ThinkUKnow Advice on internet safety for young people, parents and professionals www.thinkuknow.co.uk</p>
	<p>UK Safer Internet Centre Advice on internet safety for young people, parents and professionals. Go to Advice and Resources – Parents and Carers' section for information on parental controls for home internet, parental controls on devices and privacy settings on social networks. www.saferinternet.org.uk/</p>
	<p>Safe Schools and Communities Team (Dorset) Advice and links about different issues relating to young people including internet safety https://www.dorset.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/safe-schools-team/</p>

Parents' Online Safety Tips



Talk, talk, talk. The most important thing for parents and carers is to have lots of conversations with their children and young people about what they are using, how these website/apps work, why they enjoy them, who else is using them etc. In this way they may be able to identify any risky content, inappropriate contact or conduct at an early stage.



Allow access to the internet from devices within the family space. We do not recommend children and young people having computers or games consoles etc in their rooms.



Check virus protection. Ensure that mobile devices and laptops have the relevant software to protect from viruses and other malware. There are several free brands that update regularly and provide good protection or there is other commercially available software.



Subscribe to their Internet Service Provider's family filtering service. All major providers now have this service free of charge – the account holder simply goes to their account online and ticks the relevant boxes. This will prevent different types of content from being available via the router in a particular location. Note this does not have any effect on devices that are not accessing the internet via the router eg 3G/4G phone signal.



Use Safe Searching. Most search engines such as Google and YouTube have a safe search facility under the settings menu. Parents and carers of young children particularly may wish to use this to stop them coming across inappropriate material.



Tighten privacy settings on websites and apps. Parents and carers should try to ensure that any social media accounts or apps are set to the highest privacy settings to prevent unknown or inappropriate people from viewing or contacting children and young people – this can be found under Settings in most websites/apps. Often the default setting for these types of account is public meaning that everyone can see content including pictures and videos.



Consider using Parental Controls on devices. Parents and carers may wish to use Parental controls on laptops, mobile devices or games consoles. These controls can limit the times the device can be used, whether apps/games can be downloaded and whether the internet can be accessed. iPads, Windows and new Android (4.3 or higher operating system) have built in parental controls: for older Android devices, apps may need to be downloaded to provide parental controls.