

Keeping safe online

Advice for parents and carers

Schools, colleges and childcare providers are currently closed to most pupils. Daily routines have changed, with many working and studying from home. We understand there may be more concern from parents about the safety of their children online. So, what can you do to keep your family safe online during the corona-virus out-

"It is important for children and young people to stay both connected and safe online."

"Over 65% of parents and carers are most concerned about their children aged 6-10 viewing inappropriate content online."

CHECKLIST



Put yourself in control

Make use of the parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or on [internetmatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org). You can find **brilliant** step by step guides for games, apps and social networking sites on: <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental->



Search safely

Use safe search engines such as [swiggle.org.uk](https://www.swiggle.org.uk) or [kids-search.com](https://www.kids-search.com). Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines as well as YouTube. You can find out more at www.google.co.uk/safetycentre.



Agree boundaries

Be clear what your child can and can't do online, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the information they can share. Agree with your child when they can have a mobile phone or a tablet during the day.



Explore together

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about it. Encourage them to use devices in communal areas so you can see what sites they're visiting.



Check if it is suitable

The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they are suitable for your child. The minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram and the age rating for Fortnite is 12 due to frequent scenes of violence.



Educate them

Make sure your child knows not to share personal information online and only talks to real life friends or family. Help them to better understand the different online platforms and they use and judge the quality and reliability of online resources.



Useful websites

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/video-lessons>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

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SAFETY**

