



'Keeping Children Safe'

Parent & Carer ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the July edition of our Parent and Carer Online Safety newsletter! This month, our focus is on the summer holidays. While this season offers children a wonderful opportunity to relax, play, and connect with friends, it's crucial to ensure they remain safe online.

With the summer holidays approaching, we have some online safety tips for parents to help keep children safe online during this time. Discuss the included topics with your child before the holidays begin. Emphasise that they can always approach you for help if anything online makes them feel worried, uncomfortable, or unsafe.

Wishing you all a delightful summer break!





Agree family rules before the holidays start

Set clear expectations about:

- screen time
- apps and games allowed
- who children can chat with
- what information they should never share
- when devices are put away (e.g., bedtime)
- Create a family “if something goes wrong” plan so children know they can tell you without fear of losing device access.

Here you will find a practical tool from Childnet to start discussions about how to behave online and set clear expectations for your family.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Check privacy settings on apps and games

Before children use new apps:

- make accounts private where possible
- turn off location sharing
- limit who can message or follow them
- check age ratings and parental controls

Find step-by-step guides to help you layer up parental controls across networks, devices and apps, so children can have safer online experiences as they grow.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Talk about online strangers and gaming chats

Remind children of the following important safety guidelines:

- Individuals online may not be who they claim to be.
- Refrain from sharing personal information such as their real name, school, address, holiday destination, or photos that may disclose sensitive details.
- Never transfer conversations to another application without prior verification.

When engaging in online gaming, there are numerous considerations, including interactions with other players and in-game purchases. For valuable insights on gaming safety, please refer to the extensive resources provided by Childnet.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Be careful when posting holiday photos

Remind your child of these important guidelines before they sharing photos online:

- Steer clear of posting live updates that indicate you are not at home.
- Be mindful of who can view your posts.
- Refrain from sharing images that display school uniforms, home addresses, tickets, or travel information.

Childline offers excellent advice for children regarding privacy and what they should share online.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Watch out for scams and fake giveaways

Children might encounter:

- “Free V-Bucks/Robux” offers.
- Fake competitions.
- Phishing links.
- Impersonated celebrity or influencer accounts.

Educate them on:

- Avoiding unknown links.
- Not entering passwords into pop-up windows.
- Asking for permission before downloading anything.

Internet Matters offers valuable guidance on addressing online scams and provides an interactive guide for parents and carers.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Mobile security



Scanning...



Keep devices secure while travelling

In order to ensure the security of children's devices, consider the following recommendations:

- Utilise strong passwords.
- Activate two-step verification.
- Refrain from logging into accounts on shared or public devices.
- Exercise caution when using public Wi-Fi.

For more helpful information, the National Cyber Security Centre provides excellent cyber security advice for you and your family.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Encourage healthy screen habits

During the holiday season, consider the following suggestions:

- Balance gaming and social media with outdoor activities.
- Enjoy device-free meals or family gatherings.
- Keep bedrooms free of devices overnight whenever possible.

For more insights, check out Internet Matters to discover how to maximise screen time and support your child in benefiting from it.

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