

Let's Talk about Online Safety 28th March 2025 Jess Morrison, Deputy Headteacher



Aims:

- Talking to your child about online safety
- Supervision and parental controls
- Screen time
- Social Media and Gaming



Please connect to the school wifi (if you use your phone in here today)

Safeguarding is **everyone's** responsibility.

All staff and visitors must have all devices logged into the St Stephen's school wifi

Wifi: **CITL-SSS** Password: **TW11LF3462**



This presentation brings together:



• Key Findings from:

- <u>Children and parents: Media Use and Attitudes report</u>
- <u>Children's Online User Ages 2023 Quantitative Research Study</u>
- <u>Children's Media Lives: Year 10 findings 19 April 2024</u>
- <u>Revealing-Reality Anti-social Media Report 2023</u>
- Internet Watch Foundation Annual Report 2023
- Evidence on pornography's influence on harmful sexual behaviour among children Report 2023

• Suggested Resources and Tips for Staff to help Parents/Carers:

- keep up with the latest trends, apps and games
- manage controls and settings
- talk to children about risk



Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report

Anti-social Media

The violent, sexual and illegal content childre

Published 19 April 2024 Nelsh language summary availa



Children's Media Lives 2024 Ten years of longitudinal research A report for Ofcom





TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT LIFE ONLINE



Summary of parental concerns (3 – 17 yr-olds)



% Parents whose child age 3-17 goes online





YOU don't need to be an **EXPERT** ... be a **PARENT**

- It's your choice Don't let others dictate when the right time is to use tech.
- Stay involved make time to communicate, talk about what they are doing. What do they enjoy? What makes them laugh?
- **Don't quiz them** have regular conversations. What's their favourite app? What is the best site to learn new things from?
- Join in watch them play a game and join in. Who are they playing with? Do they know the other players?
- **'Show me how...'** ask their advice to help you with your privacy settings, who you should add as a friend, are there any risks?
- Lead by example children learn as much from watching as they do from being told not to do something, so model good behaviour
- **Reassure them** tell them that they won't get in trouble and that you are always there to help.





Are you **CONFIDENT** to **TALK TO YOUR CHILD**? Is your child confident to **TALK TO YOU**?



WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Are there any areas you would not feel confident or comfortable to discuss?

Younger children are more likely to tell someone if they see something worrying or nasty online:

- Two-thirds of 8-11-year-olds say that they would always tell someone (66%)
- Almost half of 12-15s and 16- 17s (49% and 45% respectively).



Keeping your children safe: online & beyond

PARENTSAFE

This page is for parents - if you are a teacher, click here

It's never easy to know how to keep our children safe when they aren't with us, and sometimes even when are, if we don't know what's happening in their lives or on their devices! Who are they talking to, what are they doing, are they okay? Don't despair though...scroll through this page for help or click a button to go straight to a particular topics.





parentsafe.lgfl.net

TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT LIFE ONLINE

Find conversation starters, story time ideas and top tips to reinforce key safety messages at <u>parentsafe.lgfl.net</u>





Thorn have 18 <u>topic-based</u> <u>discussion guides</u> with questions to help start conversations!

NEINE 200

DEVICE USE AND OWNERSHIP





SMARTPHONE or **'NON'-SMART / BRICK** phone?

- Internet access
- Social media, apps and games
- Notifications
- Anytime connection
- Parental controls

REMEMBER IT'S YOUR CHOICE

Every child and situation is unique, and you are best placed to know their needs

- NO internet access
- Some games
- Anytime phone calls and texts
 Limited parental controls







Secondary school ready?

Pointers for family conversations about safety

To help you with the transition of pupils from primary to secondary, why not download our **FREE Leaflet for parents**:

understanding risk

- understanding **risk**
- using tech for good
- healthy habits and tips
- when best to get a phone



On our school website

Use and watch good tech

- Choose technology that supports learning e.g. maths, languages and BBC Bitesize.
- Enjoy quality TV as a family avoid endless shortreel videos on individual devices. For ideas see:
- commonsensemedia.org
- Ask your school for device recommendations.

Follow school phone policy

- Read the school's policy to support the school and reinforce the messages at home.
- Consider, does your child have the skills to manage a smart phone? Would a more basic phone be better to start with?
- Agree Home Rules for device use too such as: familyagreement.lgfl.net

Form good daily habits

- Limit gaming to the weekends school nights will be busy with homework and clubs.
- Follow minimum age restrictions on apps and games.
- Avoid mindless scrolling. Be mindful of what you digitally consume.
- Read quality books at bedtime.
- Create a study area at home without mobile devices.
- Keep phones and gaming out of bedrooms.



Real online harms

The NSPCC calls the internet the "Wild West," because extreme and harmful content is easily accessible on mainstream social media and contact with strangers via platforms and games is all too frequent. Children don't always understand the meaning of words nor the impact of viewing/hearing extreme content. They get excited by new friendship groups and often struggle to self-regulate on these highly addictive apps, which nudge children to share photos, videos and location. Schools have behaviour policies which include expectations of online behaviour. Children who reuse rude words they've heard online or share inappropriate content could face serious consequences.

 Be involved and set security passcodes on children's devices. Consider limiting access to this 'iunk food' type tech.

SUPERVISION AND PARENTAL CONTROLS





SafeguardED

Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024

Age Restrictions for **Social Media Platforms** 16 is the minimum age for account holders 13 on these social media sites and apps. Facebook X (formerly Twitter) Instagram Pinterest Messenger CTTC Yubo Twitch TikTok Discord Snapchat BeReal.

WhatsApp

Reddit

YouTube

BeReal

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps.





is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps.

PSN Online Account

Account



<u>#wakeupwednesdays</u>

Brilliant weekly updates on aspects of online safety - easy to digest.

Available on social media platforms - Instagram, Facebook, X)



Why not have a family agreement to:

- **clarify** what is allowed...or not
- **establish** ground rules like no phones at the table or in the bedroom at night-time
- agree shared expectations to reduce arguments and keep everyone safe & healthy



Download it at <u>parentsafe.lgfl.net/digital-family-agreement</u>





SafeguardED

LGfL[°]



Have you set up parental CONTROLS/PRIVACY SETTINGS for ALL DEVICES and NETWORKS?

- Controls have to be set up on both the broadband connection
 <u>AND</u> each individual device
- These do not come as standard so it's worth checking
- They are important because they allow you to:
 - Block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content or sites
 - Plan what time and how long your child can go online for





High awareness of technical control tools among parents, <u>BUT</u> many are choosing not to use them WHY DO YOU THINK THIS IS THE CASE?

 Around four in ten parents who know about content filters prefer to rely on their child's ability to navigate online content rather than to have a technical filter





Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024

Visit <u>www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/</u> to find out how to set controls on devices:



Set up devices safely Set parental controls on a range of devices, apps, and platforms with our how-to guides.







Parental control apps like <u>Google Family Link</u>, <u>Screen Time</u> and <u>Microsoft Family</u> can let you set limits across devices, apps and platforms

SAFE SETTINGS, CONTROLS & MONITORING

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Apple, Android and Microsoft have tools to help you control what younger children can use and how long for. Click the images below for details. Once they are older and have your trust, the same tools can help avoid arguments and help them learn to self-regulate (how long have they really been on insta today? have they put down the phone at all in the last week?).



Apple Screen Time

Great for both parental controls and teen self-regulation

<u>Google Family Link</u>

Locked all day

The 19 min

& merry

<u>Digital Wellbeing</u> is the next step for the older ones after Family Link

Microsoft Family Safety

There are no self-regulation features for older teens, but Family Safety is great for the younger ones



Visit <u>parentsafe.lgfl.net/</u> for additional advice and tips on settings and controls for all devices

REMEMBER

- As children get older, restrictions and controls you use will change, but only at a pace you feel is appropriate for your child, not pressure from your child "because everyone else is allowed"
- Content filters are never 100% effective, at some point your child may come across inappropriate or upsetting content, so make time to talk regularly



SCREENTIME





How does your child feel about YOUR SCREENTIME vs THEIRS?







Talk to your child about their device use, but remember yours, too



Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024





WORRIED about their SCREENTIME?? Do you know HOW LONG YOUR CHILD SPENDS online daily?



- Children spent an average 3 hours 5 minutes per day accessing the internet, across smartphones, tablets and computers
- Four in ten (39%) parents of children aged 3-17 report finding it hard to control their child's screentime



Visit <u>screentime.lgfl.net</u> for advice and tips to manage screentime

Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024



Visit <u>parentsafe.lgfl.net/</u> for advice and tips to manage screentime

SCREENTIME

Lots of parents worry about it, but we don't think you should worry about screentime - it's not **how long** they are online but **what and when they are doing** that counts (and the same goes for grown-ups, like in the Will Ferrell video above). You can use the control settings near the top of this page to regulate screen time in general and on specific apps, but beyond that we recommend you follow the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital 5 A Day' and help your children to aim for each of the targets in this pie chart ¬





UK Chief Medical Officers' advice for parents and carers on Children and Young People's screen and social media use

Technology can be a wonderful thing but too much time sitting down or using mobile devices can get in the way of important, healthy activities. Here are some tips for balancing screen use with healthy living.

Sleep matters

Getting enough, good quality sleep is very important. Leave phones outside the bedroom when it is bedtime.



Sharing sensibly

Talk about sharing photos and information online and how photos and words are sometimes manipulated. Parents and carers should never assume that children are happy for their photos to be shared. For everyone - when in doubt, don't upload!



Education matters

Make sure you and your children are aware of, and abide by, their school's policy on screen time.



Safety when out and about

Advise children to put their screens away while crossing the road or doing an activity that needs their full attention.

Family time together

Screen-free meal times are a good idea you can enjoy face-to-face conversation, with adults giving their full attention to children.



Keep movina!

Everyone should take a break after a couple of hours sitting or lying down using a screen. It's good to get up and move about a bit. #sitlessmovemore



Talking helps

Talk with children about using screens and what they are watching. A change in behaviour can be a sign they are distressed – make sure they know they can always speak to you or another responsible adult if they feel uncomfortable with screen or social media use.



Use helpful phone features

Some devices and platforms have special features try using these features to keep track of how much time you (and with their permission, your children) spend looking at screens or on social media.





SOCIAL MEDIA AND GAMING





Are you FAMILIAR WITH THE APPS and GAMES your child is on?

YouTube is the most popular, but the appeal of many social media platforms varies by age





- under two in ten of all 3-4-year-olds use
 Instagram and/or
 Snapchat
- this rises to eight in ten among 16-17s
- under a quarter of all 3-4-year-olds use
 WhatsApp
- this rises to over eight in ten of all 16-17-year-olds



Go to <u>apps.lgfl.net</u> for guidance on apps and social media sites

Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024



KNOW WHAT THEY DO on social media?

Eight in ten (81%) of all children aged 8-17 use at least one social media app/site for following friends, people and organisations, reading, liking or sharing content



Many used sites and apps like TikTok and Instagram to consume content

Snapchat was the most favoured platform to message and communicate with friends.

"I don't think I could live without Snapchat anymore.... I've got all my friends on it, and we have like group chats where we all call, like, all the time, and we text each other and Snap each other" **Suzy, 12**



Go to <u>apps.lgfl.net</u> for guidance on apps and social media sites

Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024



- Young people can get around age restrictions on apps and websites, increasing the risk of them coming to harm online
- Many children have online profiles that make them appear older than they actually are

 exposing them to content inappropriate for their age
- Addictive algorithms can make it harder to take a break and maintain a healthy balance between time on and offline
- Algorithms can also target content similar to what you've already selected/liked/shared. This can prevent you from finding new ideas and perspectives, create misinformation and reinforce stereotypes.







What about WHATSAPP?

Do you know the **minimum age** to use this? What are the **risks**?





What can you do?



5 tips to keep kids safe on WhatsApp

- Review privacy settings WhatsApp has a range of privacy and security settings to keep users safe. Customise groups, app access, live location and more.
- 2 Customise contacts Show your child how to report and block unwanted contacts. Then, work with them to add their friends and family. Review and talk about their contacts regularly.
- Talk about personal information Make sure your child understands what personal information is. Talk about the importance of keeping that information private on WhatsApp.
- 4 Show them where to get support If something goes wrong or they see something worrying on WhatsApp, make sure they know to come to you, and talk about other sources of support.
- 5 Check in regularly Once you've done all of the above, check in with them regularly to review settings and how they use WhatsApp.



Visit

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/#whatsapp-safety-ti

How can YOU GET INVOLVED?

- ASK what type of games your child enjoys are they age-appropriate
- PLAY games together keep the tech in shared spaces rather than bedrooms
- TALK about who they are playing with what information are they sharing?
- EXPLAIN what is/isn't appropriate to share, e.g. personal details to identify them/location
- AGREE how they will spend their **money** online
- **DISCUSS** what they would do if they were **bullied** online, and what steps to take
- DECIDE how long is appropriate to play in one session how many sessions a data

• SETUP these restrictions in parental settings with your child LGfL Visit gaming.lgfl.net for advice and activities to keep them safe Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024

PEGI helps parents to make informed decisions when buying video games:

- The age rating confirms that the game content is appropriate for players of certain age
- It considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty

pegi.info



THE CONTENT DESCRIPTORS





Find ratings and reviews for parents on apps, games and social media [t commonsensemedia.org]



| Movies | τν | Books | Games | Podcasts | Apps | YouTube | Parent Tips and FAQs | Celebrating Cor |
|--------------------|----|-------|-------|------------------------|------|---------|----------------------|-----------------|
| By Age | | | | By Topic | | | By Platform | |
| Preschoolers (2-4) | | | | Screen Time | | | TikTok | |
| Little Kids (5-7) | | | | Learning | | | Snapchat | |
| Big Kids (8-9) | | | | Social Media | | | Minecraft | |
| Pre-Teens (10-12) | | | | Cellphones | | | Roblox | |
| Teens (13+) | | | | Online Safety | | | Fortnite | |
| | | | | Identity and Community | | | Discord | |
| | | | | More | | | More | |
| | | | | | | | | |





See full review

See full review



RESOURCES AND SUPPORT



Visit <u>parentsafe.lgfl.net</u> for tips and ideas to help parents:

- Manage screen
 time
- Set controls and settings
- Understand apps and games
- Talk to children about risk - from bullying & sharing content, to extremism & gangs

parentsafe.lgfl.net







Where to get help?

<u>#wakeupwednesdays</u>

www.internetmatters. org/parental-controls/ Brilliant weekly updates on aspects of online safety - easy to digest.

Available on social media platforms - Instagram, Facebook, X)





We are always here to listen and help...







Please use this QR code to help us plan our next parent/carer online safety sessions.