

# Online Safety Tips For Parents



Here are 5 top tips to help you and your children stay safe online:

## 1. PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or by visiting [internetmatters.org](http://internetmatters.org).

## 2. SEARCH SAFELY

Use safe search engines such as [swiggle.org.uk](http://swiggle.org.uk) or [kids-search.com](http://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 [google.co.uk/safetycentre](http://google.co.uk/safetycentre)

## 3. SET BOUNDARIES

It's never too early to start setting rules about when and for how long your child can use devices and start to introduce the subject of internet safety at the same time. Encourage children to use devices in a communal area, keep other devices out of reach and use passwords so they can't go online without asking you first.

## 4. EXPLORE TOGETHER

Set your homepage to a child-friendly site such as CBeebies and give them a user account which only allows access to sites and apps you've chosen.

## 5. HELP THEM LEARN THROUGH GAMES

Games are a great way for young children to explore the internet and learn about the world around them. You can choose safe, fun and educational games free of charge from providers such as Fisher Price or about their favourite characters like Peppa Pig.

You can find out more about how children and young people use technology and electronic media, the risks they face, and how to keep them safe when using the following links.



### GUIDES

NSPCC – [Child Safety Online: A practical guide for parents and carers whose children are using social media](#)

Gov.UK – [Child-safety-online-a-practical-guide-for-parents-and-carers](#)

### RESOURCES

BBC – [Cbeebies](#)

BBC – [CBBC](#)

Internet Matters – [safety leaflets](#)

### WEBSITES

[UK Council for Internet safety](#)

[Thinkuknow](#)

[CEOP](#)

[Get safe online](#)

[Childnet](#)

[Digizen](#)



## Online Abuse

### How Can You Help Victims?

**IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SOMEONE BEING A VICTIM OF ONLINE ABUSE, YOU CAN SUPPORT THEM BY:**

- Listen carefully to what they are saying
- Let them know they are doing the right thing by talking to you
- Tell them it is not their fault and that you will take them seriously
- Do not confront the alleged abuser
- Explain what you will do next
- Report what the child has told you as soon as possible. This may be to the police, social care, NSPCC or other organisations such as the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Unit (CEOP).

### WHO CAN YOU CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE?

#### Childnet

An international, not for profit organisation that aims to support others to make the internet a great and safe place for children. Provides access to a wealth of free resources.

#### Internet Watch Foundation

They work internationally to make the internet safer by removing images of child sexual abuse.

#### Think U Know

Education programmes for children to help them stay safe online.

#### UK Safer Internet

Provides online safety tips to help children and young people stay safe online.

#### Mencap

Organisation for people with learning disabilities to help them understand what cyberbullying is.