

Newdigate's Online Safety Newsletter

Thursday 17th December 2020



Welcome to our first online safety newsletter!

As 2020 comes to a close, many of us will be celebrating and reflecting on the year we've had (what a year it's been!).

Christmas is fast approaching and many children might be looking forward to receiving new technology from Father Christmas. This might range from phones to tablets to games consoles. Therefore, we thought it was perfect timing to launch our new newsletter and give you some advice about how you can help to keep your children safe online.

Why should I set up parental controls?

Parental controls are designed to help protect children from inappropriate content online. These controls can be used in a number of ways, e.g. to help ensure that your children access only age-appropriate content; to set usage times; and to monitor activity.

There are four main places you can find parental controls, and it can help to set-up a combination of these:

- Internet provider: You can set up filters to help block access to inappropriate content on any device that connects to your home WiFi.
- Mobile operator: Filters are often automatically set up on mobile contracts, especially if the user is under the age of 18, but you can double-check with your provider.
- Devices: Many devices have parental control settings, for example, to help restrict spending in apps, reduce screentime, or disable location functions.
- Online Services: Sites like BBC iPlayer and YouTube have parental control settings to help restrict access to inappropriate content.



When should I set up parental controls?

With any new technology, it is recommended that restrictions are put in place before the device is handed over so that you know they're safe online as soon as they start playing.

How do I set up parental controls?

www.internetmatters.org have some excellent advice about how to set up controls on a range of different devices.

Have a look at the checklist overleaf to help to give you some peace of mind regarding your child's safety on the internet.

Have a lovely Christmas holidays and stay safe online!

Top Internet Safety Websites

www.internetmatters.org

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.ceop.police.uk