



# Online Safety Newsletter



*"Working together to provide a safe, inclusive learning environment where all are valued respected and encouraged to achieve their very best.*

*Challenges are met with determination and welcomed as opportunities to flourish and grow."*

## Parental controls



With Christmas just around the corner, we thought we'd provide a little reminder about setting up appropriate parental controls for any new phones, consoles or games your child may receive.

## Games/consoles

First, check the PEGI rating of any new games to check that your child is old enough to be playing them. PEGI provides age classifications for video games and considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. It is important to note that PEGI do not take into consideration user generated content within games (such as on Roblox) and the chat facilities within games. Visit PEGI here:

<https://pegi.info/>

For any new consoles, it is important to set up appropriate controls such as restricting spending limits and managing who they can communicate with. Follow the links below to find out about Parental Controls for each device:

**Nintendo:** <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/NintendoSwitch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls1183145.html>

**PS5:** <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>

**Xbox:** <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/community/foreveryone/responsible-gaming>

## Tablets/Smart phones



As well as setting up parental controls on the device itself, r to check any apps your child would like on their device. Ensure it is suitable for their age and review all settings and privacy options for each one. For the devices, use the available settings to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Follow the links below to find out more:

**iPhones/iPads:** <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>

**Google Play:** <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

## Is your child about to get their first phone?

EE have launched PhoneSmart Licence, which is a course to help prepare children for their new phone by teaching them how to stay safe and be kind online.

PhoneSmart is free and available to everyone, not just EE customers. Your child will have to complete 5 sections and as they complete each episode, they will be rewarded with a sticker. Once they have collected all 5, they will be given their PhoneSmart Licence.

For further advice and information. Follow the link below:

<https://eephonesmart.co.uk/>

## Helping My Autistic Child Stay Safe Online

The Ann Craft Trust and The Marie Collins Foundation have joined forces to create a resource to help parents and children understand various online risks. The booklet includes information about what online harm is and ways you can effectively help and support your children. Download a copy here: <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/helping-my-autistic-child-stay-safe-online/>

## Digital Leader Top Tip:

Always ask an adult to help you if you are worried or concerned





A little fun song to remind us about how to stay safe online over Christmas:

## Let's connect this CHRISTMAS (SOME WAY)

By now you'll have seen our collaboration with Musicalternative for this year's National Online Safety Christmas song. If you feel like joining in – perhaps with your family or with your class – we've reproduced the lyrics here for you!

1 We don't want a lot for Christmas,  
There's nothing we really need  
And we don't care about the presents  
Underneath the Christmas tree  
We just want a screen-free day  
Unless we're calling family far away  
What more can we say?  
Let's connect this Christmas, some way

2 I don't want a lot for Christmas  
But here's some other things I'd like (I'd like)  
Offline school from now till summer  
Time outside to ride my bike

3 And I don't want to spend this Christmas  
Surrounded by a million screens  
Unless they're showing happy faces  
The fam on Zoom or my friends on Teams

4 The iPad's great to stay in touch  
With people we don't see that much  
So what more can we say?  
Let's catch up this Christmas, some way

5 And I won't ask for much this Christmas  
Not even a PS5 (or a)  
iPhone ProMax, Switch OLED,  
A million-terabyte hard drive

6 It's time for some fun with mates  
But TikTok, Insta they can wait  
As for family, what do ya say?  
Let's hang out for the Christmas holiday

7 All the screens are shining so brightly  
everywhere (oh it's Christmas)  
And the sound of high-pitched ringtones  
fills the air (and mince pies)  
And everyone's distracted (stockings)  
My mental health's impacted (presents)  
Can't we use devices so we're ALL connected?  
Sharing memories that we've all collected?

8 Oh, I don't want a lot for Christmas  
This is all I'm asking for (and I)  
Just wanna spread some smiles  
Show some kindness, let's make sure  
Nobody feels on their own  
Share so everybody knows  
Through a screen, or face to face  
Let's connect this Christmas, some way

9 Connected this Christmas some way,  
please let's be  
Connected this Christmas some way  
Connected this Christmas some way  
Connected this Christmas some way

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#WakeUpWednesday

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