



For Parents and Carers:

Welcome to the Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for parents and carers of 0-5 year olds.

We know that parents and carers are concerned about their children's safety 'Online', i.e. what to do about it and where to find help and information. Published each term, this special section for parents and carers will proactively provide advice - for example, signposting resources, the risks of using technology at an early age and much more!

Does your child use your smartphone, tablet, iPad to play games, watch films and favourite TV programmes?

Do you know that 47% of parents surveyed have concerns about how much time their children spend online?

Review the interactive video available on the website internetmatters.org and read their checklists for parents:



YouTube announce new [parental controls](#) for their [YouTube Kids app](#).

Remember that no parental controls are perfect, consider the following points:

- View programmes and videos together
- Use 'safe search' mode – Google and YouTube
- Use 'safe search engines' such as Swiggle

Is your child playing online games?
Is the game your child playing age appropriate?
Do you know the risks of online games?



The risks of playing online games include:

- Accidentally viewing inappropriate or upsetting material
- Playing games with people they don't know
- Wanting to play the game(s) all the time

The NSPCC's recommendations include:

- Always check the PEGI age ratings
- Find out how to mute, block and report
- Use parental controls

Visit the following websites for more advice and guidance:

- Childline
- Parentzone

Remember you can get help by calling the free O₂ NSPCC Online Safety Helpline **0808 800 5002**

- Prefer to talk to somebody face-to-face?
- Need help to set up parental controls on any device?
- Need help with privacy settings on any device?

You can make an appointment with an O₂ Guru in store – You do not have to be an O₂ customer

Keep up to date with parent reviews of Games, Apps and website. Download the NSPCC's [Netaware app](#) from [Google Play](#) or the [App Store](#)



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