



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!

**Christmas is just around the corner!
Will you be ready?**

If you are buying your child a new mobile phone, games console, tablet PC, SMART TV or SMART toyset up the device before you wrap it!

How?

The following websites provide advice and guidance on installing:

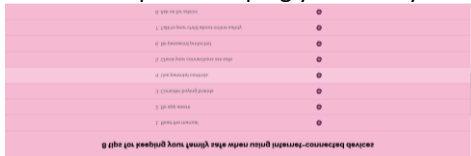
- Parental controls
- Safety settings

UK Safer Internet Centre – Parent's guide to technology includes:

- Smartphones
- Gaming Devices
- Tablets
- Smart TV

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology>

NSPCC's 8 Tips for keeping your family safe



<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/technology-toys-and-the-internet/>

Internet Matters: Buying a smart toy – tips for parents

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/guide-to-tech-buying-a-smart-toy-tips-for-parents/>



Young Children and Screen Time

Download South West Grid for Learning's guide for parents and carers:



<https://swgfl.org.uk/Uploads/57/579fcc5b-80e4-4dde-89a8-71a3c69cc1ed.pdf>

Visit PEGI's new website and find out more about:

- The PEGI age ratings
- How to limit and monitor children's online spending
- How to set the amount of time children can spend playing games
- Review age ratings for games



<https://pegi.info/>

Have you considered implementing any of the following strategies at home?

- Setting Parental Control Tools
- Using YouTube Kids
- Applying age-based settings for Netflix
- Activating Safe Search for Google, Chrome
- Using browsers such as: Swiggle <http://www.swiggle.org.uk/>
- Setting Parental controls for BT, TalkTalk, Virgin, Sky
- Establishing screen time limits
- Considered removing technology from the bedroom
- Blocking 'in-app' purchases

Review Internet Matters interactive videos and access age specific advice and read their practical guides including:

Digital Resilience toolkit - checklists for parents that give you top tips on how to help them stay safe.

Parental Controls - step by step guides to help you set up the right controls and privacy settings

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Need to talk to someone about Online Safety?

- Setting up parental controls
- Adjusting privacy settings

Expert advice available (FREE)

O₂ and NSPCC Helpline – 0800 800 5002

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

For more information contact Scomis:

E: scomis@devon.gov.uk T: 01392 385300