

Online Safety Newsletter- March 2022



What is a Digital Footprint?

A Digital Footprint is any information that is available online about you (even information shared by others), for example, photos, posts, and comments that you have made. We need to support children in developing a positive footprint by encouraging them to think about what they share and that they have appropriate privacy settings in place.



Further reading:

Childline provide further information as well as tips on how to protect your privacy and how to delete things online:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abusesafety/online-mobile-safety/taking-care-your-digital-footprint/>

SEND Online Safety Hub

Net Aware have worked with 'Ambitious about Autism' to create a hub featuring online safety tips, advice and activities for parents/carers of children with SEND.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/sendonline-safety-hub/>

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/>

YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13, the App store rates YouTube as 17+ due to the content found on there.



How can I make YouTube safer?

Turn on 'Restricted' mode as this restricts the availability of mature content. You will need to set up a Google account to do this. Explore YouTube together and see what they like to watch. Make sure your child understands that they can talk to you if they see anything that makes them feel uncomfortable online. Ensure your child knows how to report inappropriate content.

YouTube Kids



YouTube recommends that YouTube Kids is used for children under the age of 13 as it provides a safer environment and offers greater controls (you can select the shows that you would prefer them to watch). Find out how to set up the parental controls here:

<https://support.google.com/youtubekids/answer/6172308?hl=en-GB>

Supervised experience (Beta version)

This is managed by you by creating a supervised Google Account. It allows you to choose from three content settings:

- Explore: generally suitable for ages 9+.
- Explore More: generally suitable for viewers ages 13+

Most of YouTube: contains almost all YouTube content (except age restricted content) so it will include sensitive topics that may only be appropriate for older teens. <https://www.youtube.com/myfamily/>

Posting videos

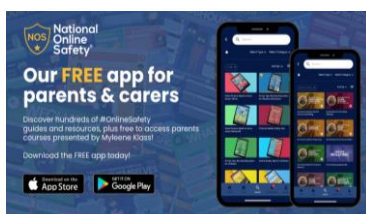
You should be over 13 years of age to post videos. Talk to your child about posting videos, do they understand what information they should keep private and what to do if they receive negative comments? YouTube have produced these tips:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244?hl=en-GB>

Should I let my child set up a YouTube account?

This article features the benefits and risks of using YouTube and their top tips: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/should-ilet-my-child-set-up-a-youtube-account/>

Have you downloaded the National Online Safety mobile app?



Children are spending more time than ever online. As adults, we need to do everything we can to keep them safe in the digital world. But with new apps, games and platforms emerging every day, how can you stay in the know?

Say hello to the new National Online Safety mobile application. Created by experts, developed by us. With all online safety knowledge available at your fingertips, the NOS app empowers parents and teachers to understand and address online safeguarding risks – anytime, anywhere.