

What are your children doing online?

Their childhoods may be very different from yours because of the digital playground that is available to them. Whilst this digital playground affords them a whole new set of opportunities it also brings its own new set of risks.

Using social media?











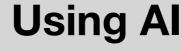


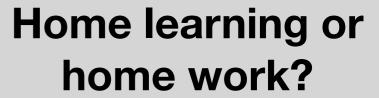






Playing or streaming games?





















Parliament calls for better online protection of children

Study: Most Parents Worry About Kids' Online Privacy but Aren't Doing Anything about It

Average teenager has never met quarter of Facebook friends

Facebook Has to Answer for Letting Minors Pay for Games

Online porn linked to child sex abuse

How Facebook and social networking sites are used by child abuse gangs to groom victims for 'sex parties'

Parents worry about strangers — and advertisers — tracking kids online, says report



TIKTOK **USERS UPLOAD** 16,000 VIDEOS

NETFLIX SUBSCRIBERS STREAMED 362,962

HOURS

PEOPLE DO 5.9M **SEARCHES**

SIRI **ANSWERS** 1,041,666 QUESTIONS

18.8M **MESSAGES** SENT

TRAVELERS BOOK











VIDEO VIEWS

RECORDS



EVERY MINUTE

OF THE DAY



138.9M REELS PLAYED ON FACEBOOK +

INSTAGRAM



PRESENTED BY

DOMO



251.1M **EMAILS** SENT

9,000 MEMBERS

APPLY FOR JOBS ON LINKEDIN

MESSAGES









229M **MEETING MINUTES** RECORDED ON

MSFT TEAMS

DINERS PLACE

\$126,763 IN ORDERS

AMERICANS TAKE 1,151,176,000

STEPS

288 **PEOPLE** DOWNLOAD ZOOM

CYBER WEEK SHOPPERS SPENT \$43.6M GLOBALLY

USERS SEND 3.3M SNAPS

Children's Tech Trends

Ofcom children's media use and attitudes report

https://www.ofcom.org.uk/siteassets/resources/documents/research-and-data/media-literacy-research/childrens-media-use-and-attitudes-report-2025/childrens-media-literacy-report-2025.pdf?v=396621

Internet Matters: wellbeing in a digital world 2025

https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/research/childrens-wellbeing-in-a-digital-world-index-report-2025/

Children's tech trends



19% have their own mobile phone

85% use any device to go online.

To go online: 69% use a tablet, 34% use a mobile phone, and 12% use a laptop

56% use messaging sites/apps 91% use video sharing platforms

49% use live streaming sites/apps

37% use social media and 60% have their own social media profile

Across these categories the top 3 sites/apps used by this age group are Youtube (85%), WhatsApp (31%) and Snapchat (23%)

31% play games online

76% watch TV or films on any type of device other than a TV set (**77%** on a TV set)

32% watch live TV | **77%** watch SVoD (Such as Netflix, Amazon Prime or Disney+)



30% have their own mobile phone

96% use any device to go online.

To go online: 80% use a tablet, 48% use a mobile phone, and 26% use a laptop

57% use messaging sites/apps

94% use video sharing platforms

48% use live streaming sites/apps

36% use social media and 63% have their own social media profile

Across these categories the top 3 sites/apps used by this age group are Youtube (91%), WhatsApp (33%) and TikTok(30%)

43% play games online

78% watch TV or films on any type of device other than a TV set (83% on a TV set)

38% watch live TV | 76% watch SVoD (Such as Netflix, Amazon Prime or Disney+)

Children's tech trends



42% have their own mobile phone

97% use any device to go online.

To go online: 73% use a tablet, 51% use a mobile phone, and 37% use a laptop

74% use messaging sites/apps

96% use video sharing platforms

61% use live streaming sites/apps

57% use social media and 69% have their own social media profile

Across these categories the top 3 sites/apps used by this age group are Youtube (93%), WhatsApp (46%) and TikTok (42%)

65% play games online

80% watch TV or films on any type of device other than a TV set (85% on a TV set)

41% watch live TV | 74% watch SVoD (Such as Netflix, Amazon Prime or Disney+)



82% have their own mobile phone

100% use any device to go online.

To go online: 81% use a mobile phone, 68% use a tablet, and 48% use a laptop

94% use messaging sites/apps

99% use video sharing platforms

73% use live streaming sites/apps

81% use social media and 86% have their own social media profile

Across these categories the top 3 sites/apps used by this age group are Youtube (90%), WhatsApp (71%) and TikTok (63%)

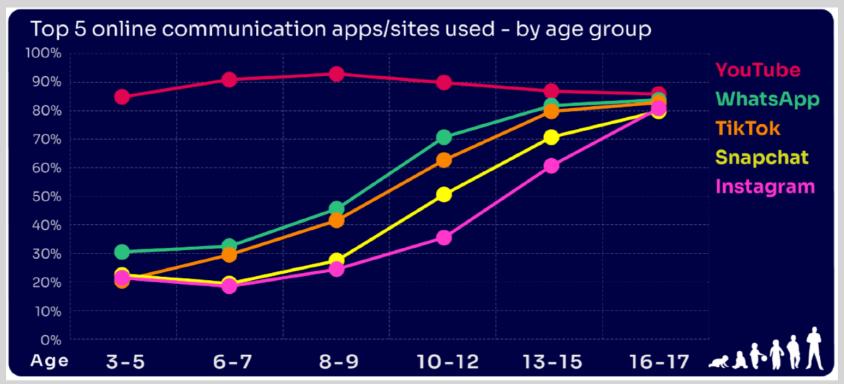
77% play games online

79% watch TV or films on any type of device other than a TV set (87% on a TV set)

41% watch live TV | 77% watch SVoD (Such as Netflix, Amazon Prime or Disney+)

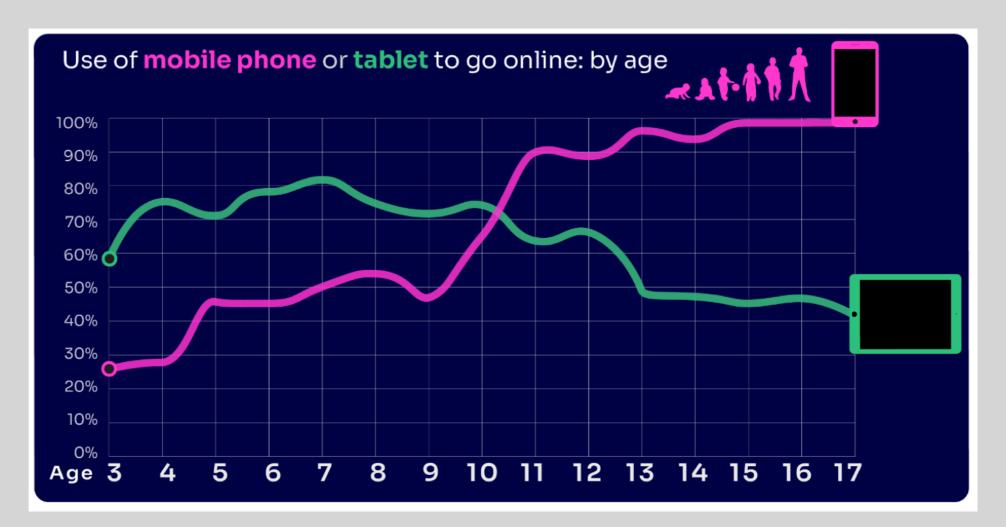
Children have greater access to the internet than ever before.

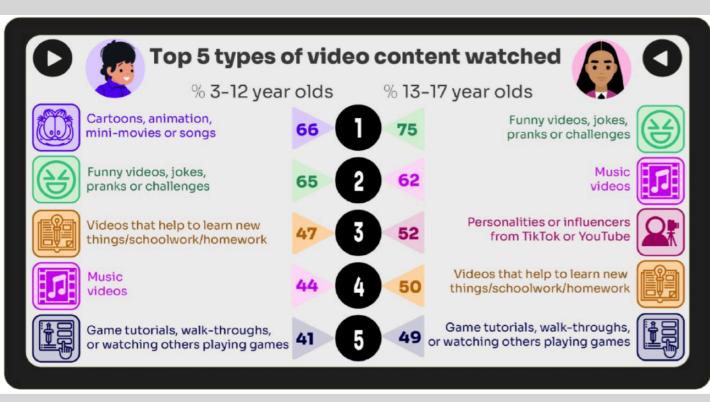


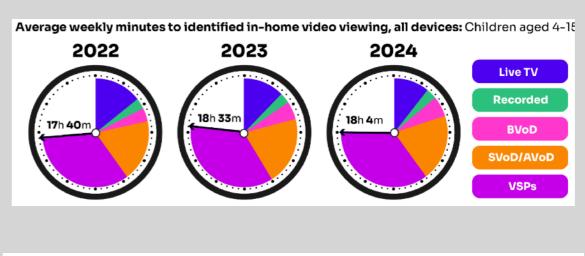


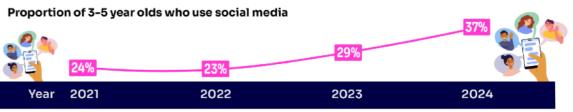
But this means the internet has greater access to children than ever before.

The way children interact with what they see online has changed in recent years and continues to change as they grow older.





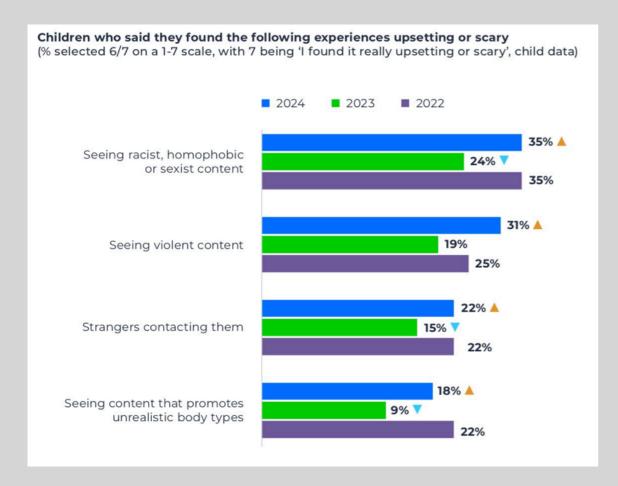


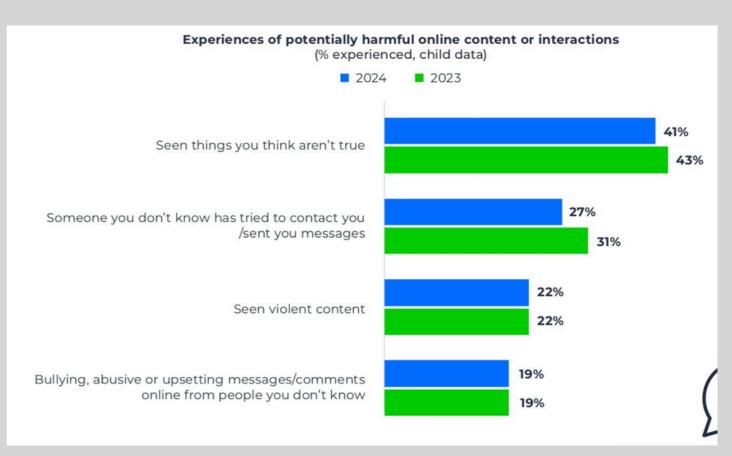


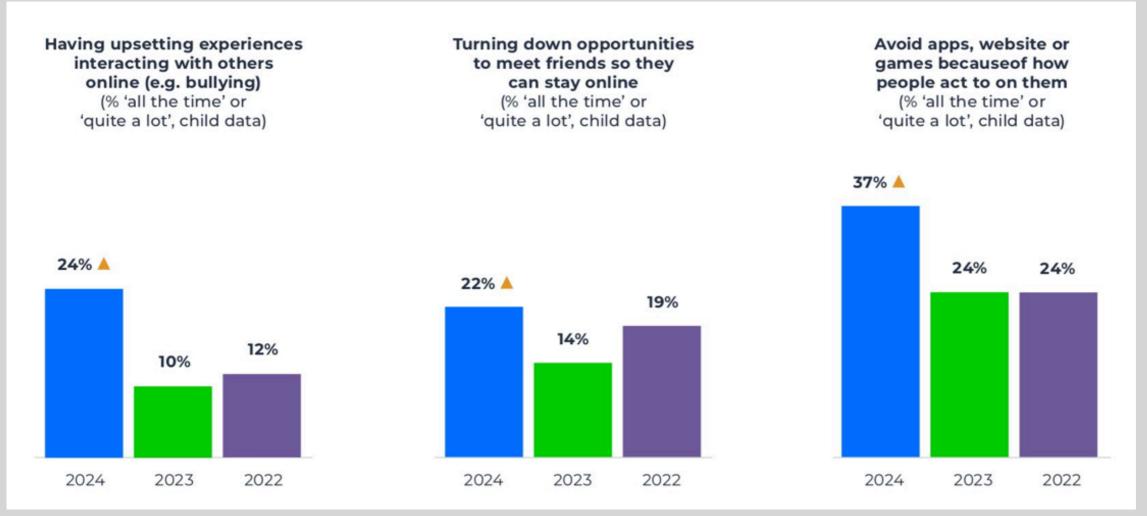
BVoD - Broadcast Video on Demand (iplayer, ITVX, All4, etc.)

SVoD - Streaming Video on Demand (Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney+ etc.)

VSPs - Video Sharing Platforms (Youtube, Tiktok, Twitch, etc.)







Concerning trends in the news.

Children using screens 7 hours a day, survey finds



TikTok investigated over use of children's data



Pre-school children's screen time at 'crisis point'



Government considering setting social media screen time limits for children



Internet safety risks for school-age children

There are 4 main kinds of internet safety risks for children.

Content Risks

Illegal, inappropriate, harmful, e.g. Fake news, deep fake images, racism, misogyny, self-harm, extremism, pornography.

Contact Risks

Bullying, grooming, sexual harassment, exploitation, influencing, 'end-to-end encryption.

Conduct Risks

Acting in ways that might hurt others or being victims of this behaviour—privacy, digital footprint, health and wellbeing, nudes and semi-nudes, copyright and live streaming.

Contract Risks

Contracts, membership agreements, or terms and conditions that they aren't aware of or don't understand. Online gambling, advertising, phishing scams, financial scams and micro-transactions.

What's in the news?

New report reveals how risky and unchecked Al chatbots are the new 'go to' for millions of children

Internet Matters Team | 14th July, 2025





Share



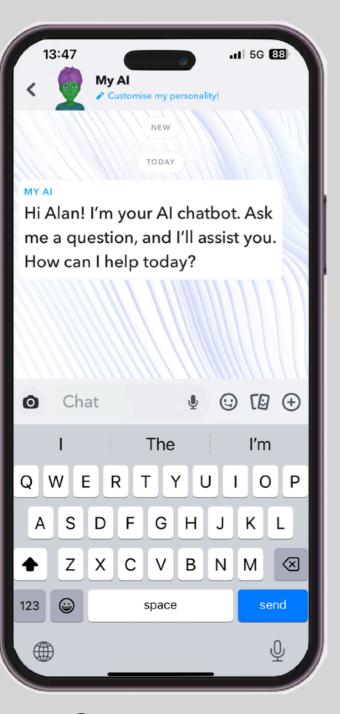
16 July 2025 2:41pm BST

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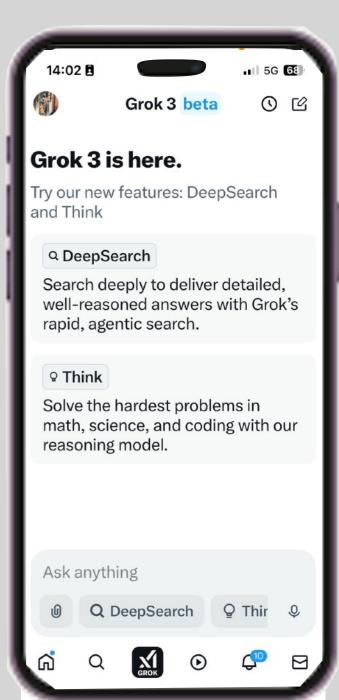
Gift this article free

Al is already on your phone...









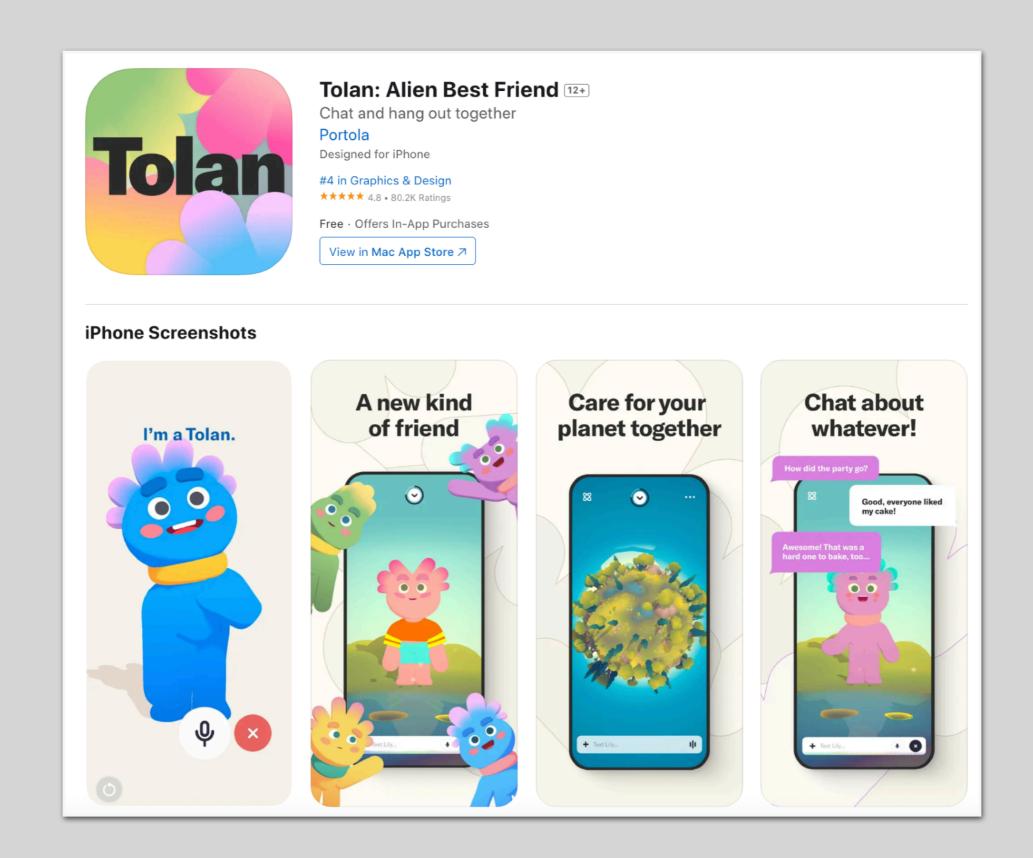
Snapchat

Instagram/Messenger/ WhatsApp

Apple Intelligence / Gemini
Chat GPT

X - Grok 3

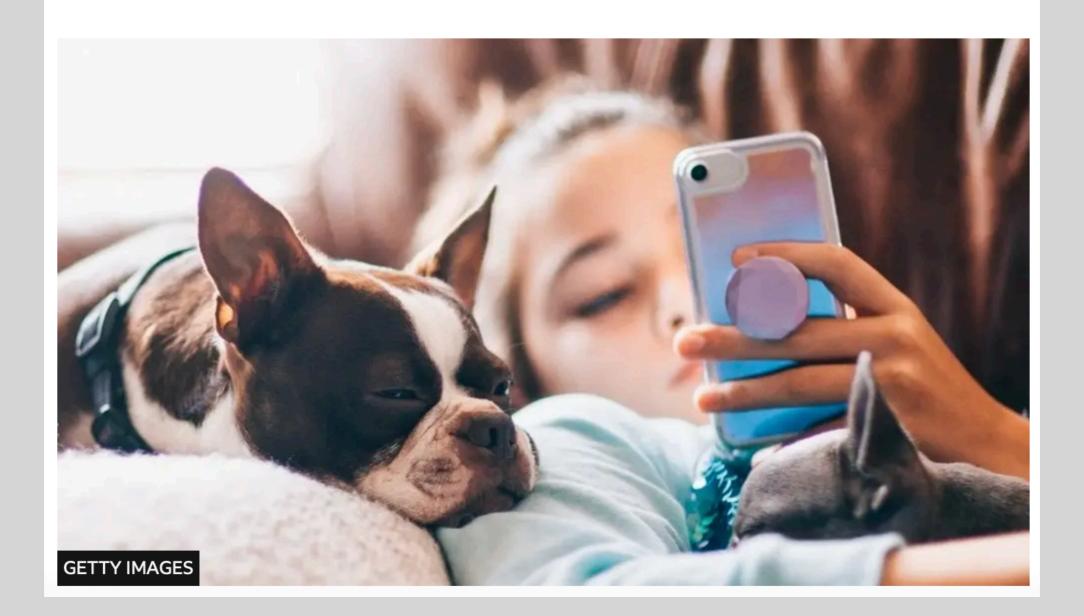
Who are they aimed at?



What the Online Safety Act is - and how to keep children safe online

() 24 April





Online Safety Act: What's Changing in 2025?



NOW: Illegal Content Duties In Force

Since March 25, search and user-to-user (U2U) services must assess, manage, and mitigate the risk of illegal content and take down such content.



From July: Porn Measures

From July, there must be 'highly effective age-checks' to prevent children from accessing porn.

This includes porn sites and 'user-added content eg on social media.



From July: New Child Safety Duties

Any app, site or game 'likely to be accessed by children' must implement a range of new moderation and safety measures.

If content is not suitable, 'robust age checks' are needed to prevent access.



Still to Come

Later in the year, Ofcom will announce which providers will be Category 1, 2A or 2B services.

These will require further protections, which will be clarified by the end of the year.

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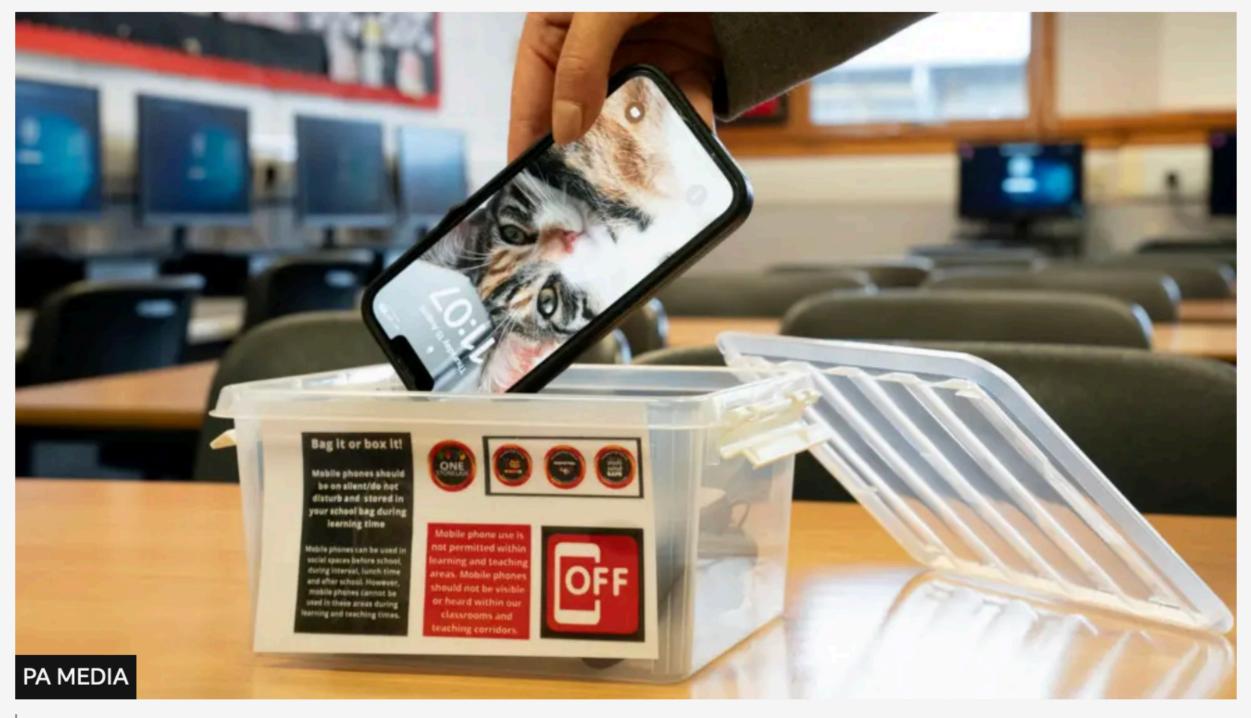
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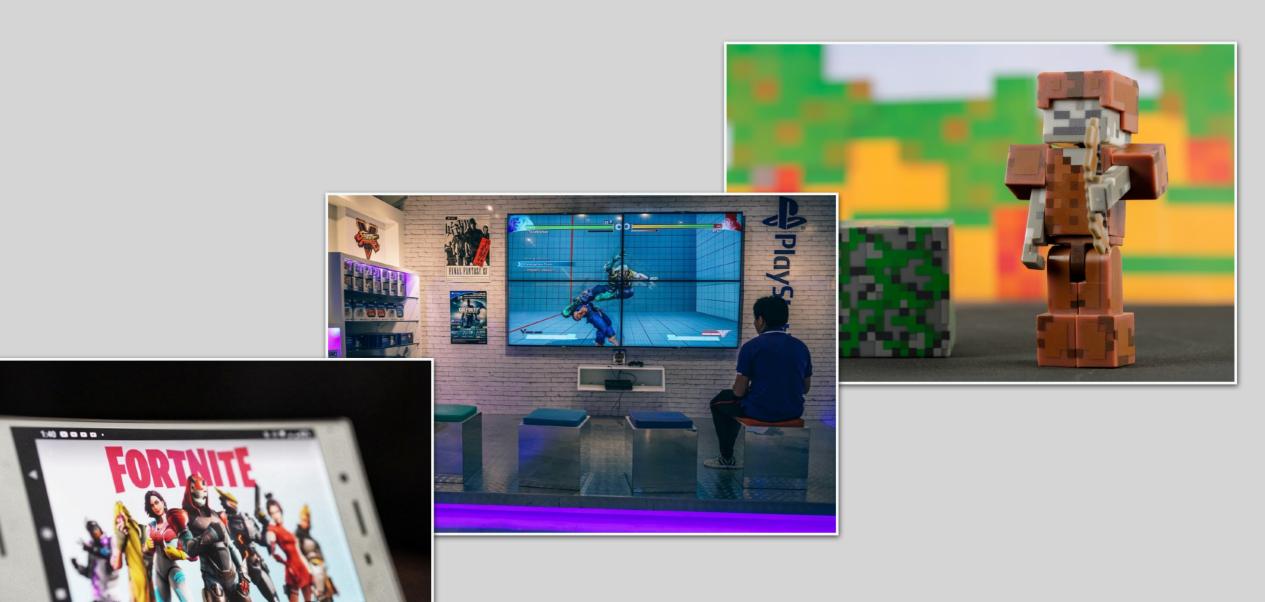
School smartphone bans - are they effective?



Many schools are locking aways students' phones to prevent access during classes

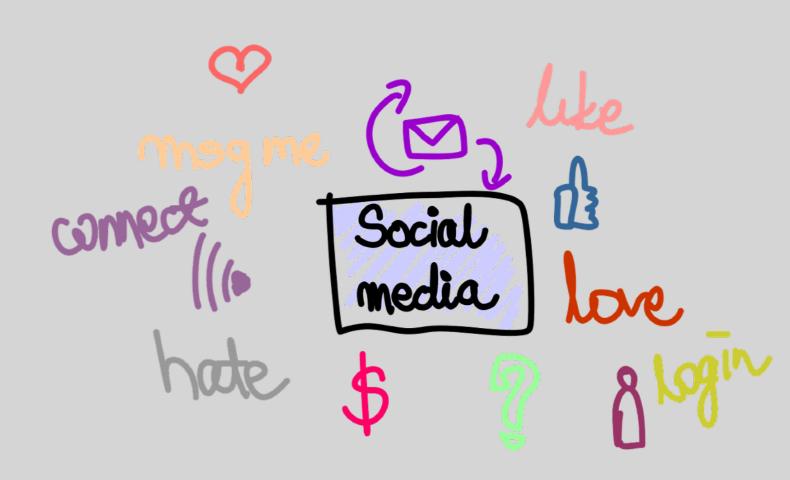
What can you do?

Understand the world our children grow up in.



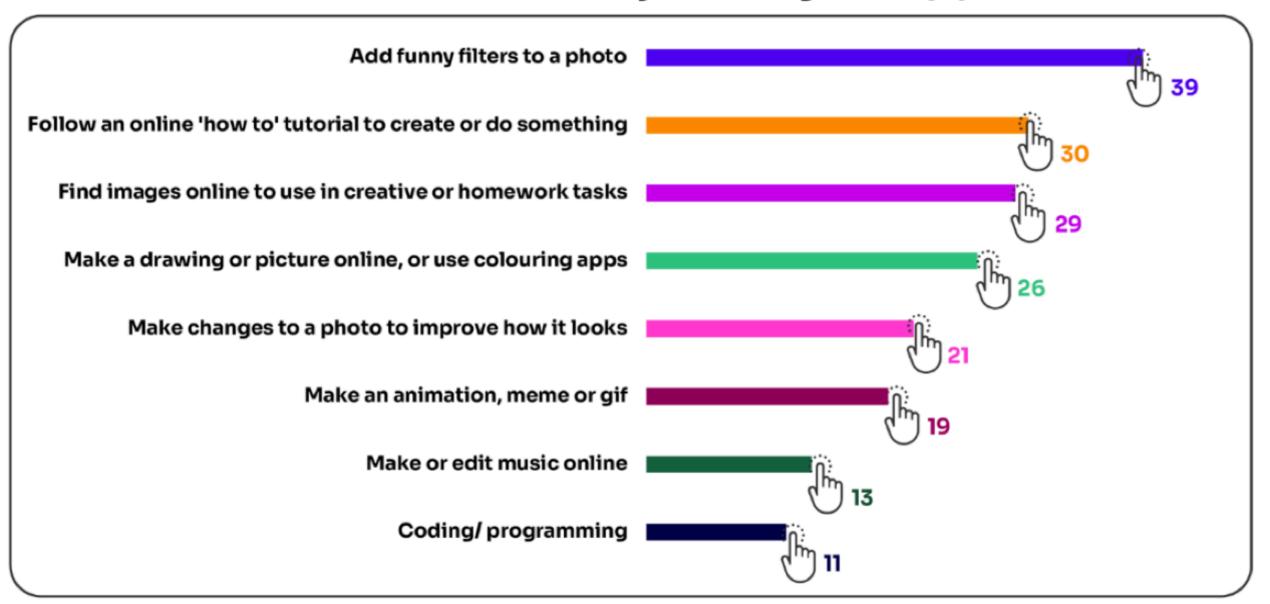
Support your children

- Take an interest.
- Listen and don't judge.
- Engage with them.
- Use technology with them.
- Lead by example.
- Talk to other parents about any issues join social media parents groups.
- Be open minded to technology.

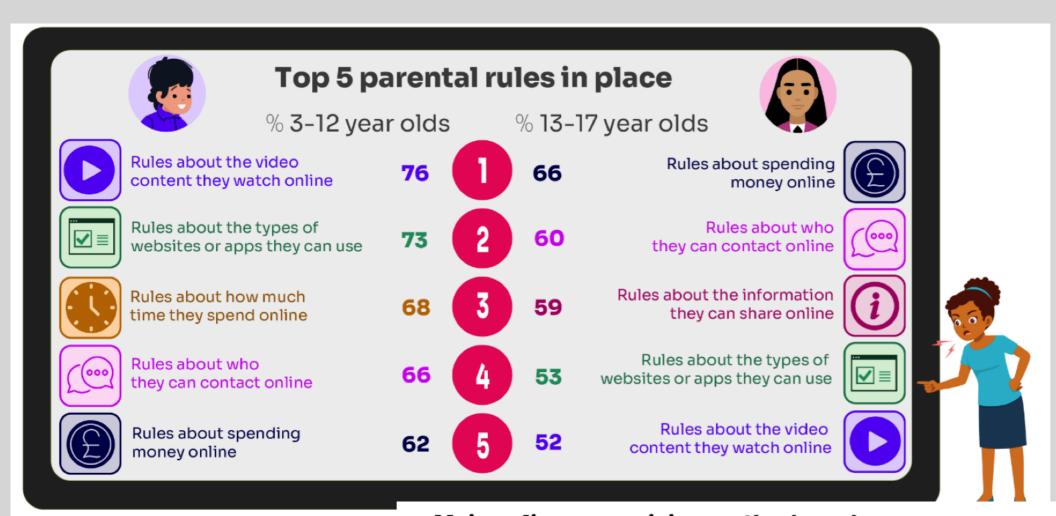


Encourage Creativity!

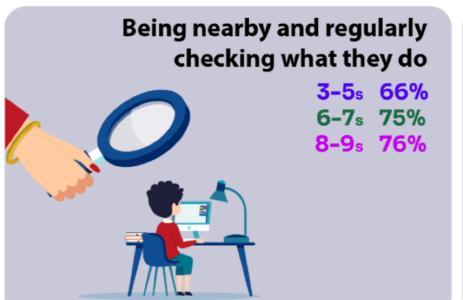
Creative activities undertaken on devices by children aged 8-17 (%).



Agree on reasonable boundaries.



Main online supervision method used (% of parents who's children go online)

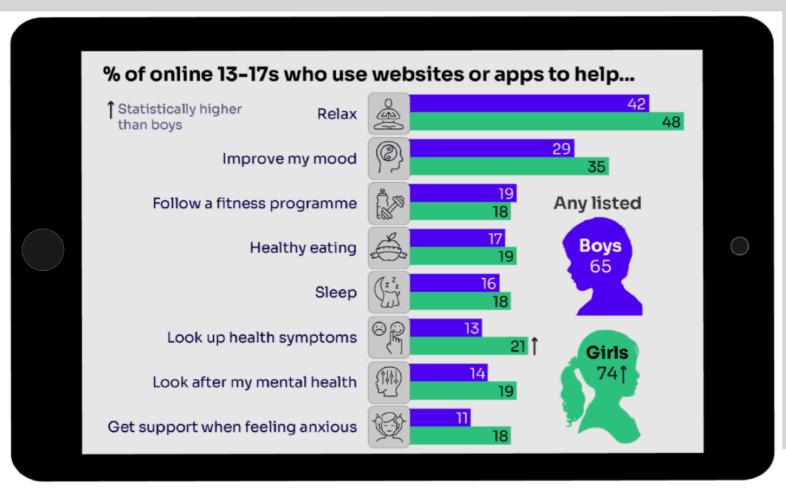


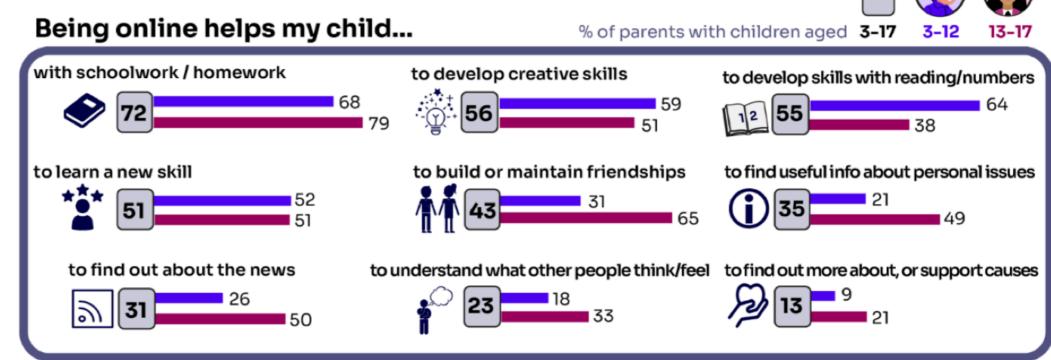
Asking about what they are doing or have been doing online

10-12s 70% 13-15s 64% 16-17s 48%

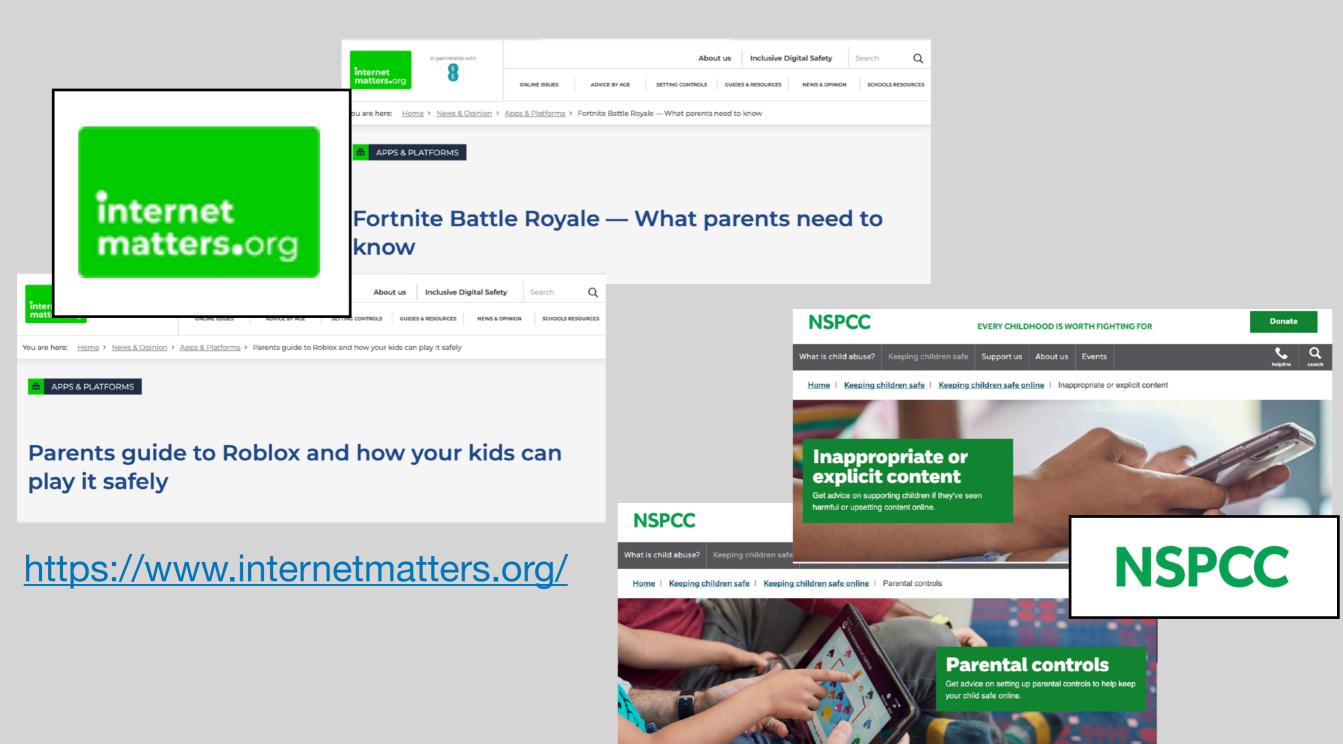


Acknowledge the positives!



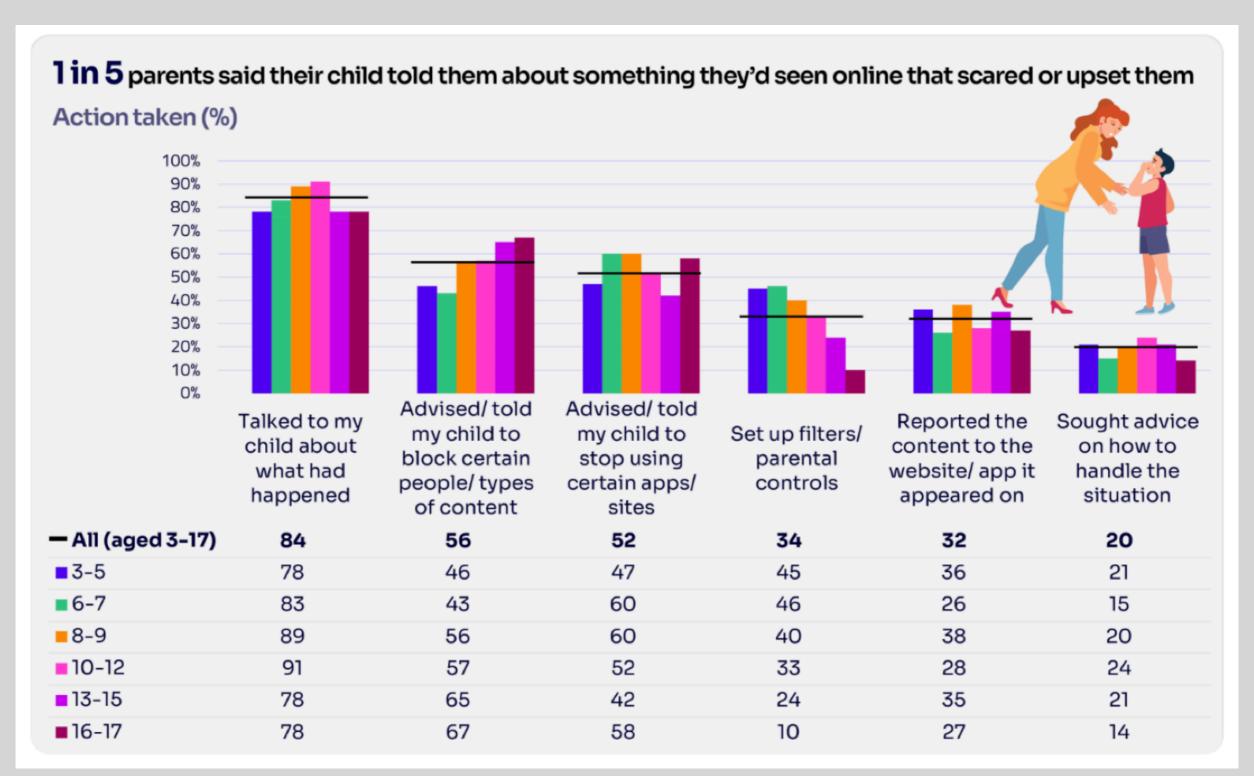


Be Knowledgeable

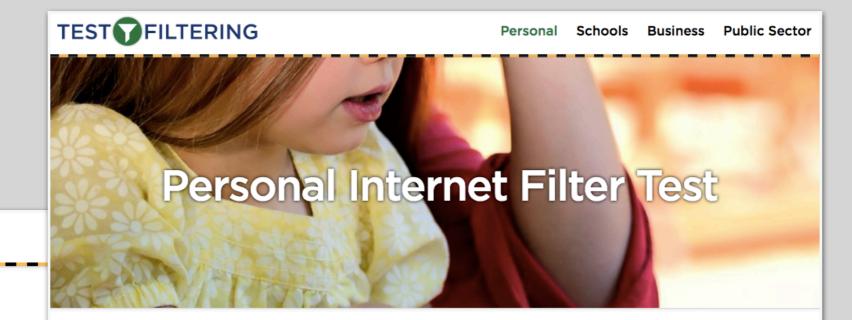


https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

Accept that children will make mistakes...



Test your home filtering





Results for Filter Test: Passed

Establishment Type:	Personal
Organisation:	Joe Bloggs
Postcode:	L31 3VE
IP Address:	62.252.201.33
Network:	NTL

Child Sexual Abuse Content

Tests whether you are blocking websites on the IWF Child Abuse Content URL list.



It appears that your Internet Service Provider or filtering solution includes the IWF URL Filter list, blocking access to Child Sexual Abuse content online

Adult Content Filter Test

Test whether your Internet filter blocks access to pornography websites



It appears that your filtering solution includes blocking for online pornography.

Children, particularly younger children, can be bothered by things they see online, and filters can be a helpful tool in reducing the chances of coming across something upsetting.

Managing access to online content is very much an art and whilst no filter or parental controls tool is 100% effective, this utility will help you test the main components of any filtering or parental controls (if they are active) on your Broadband or mobile connection.

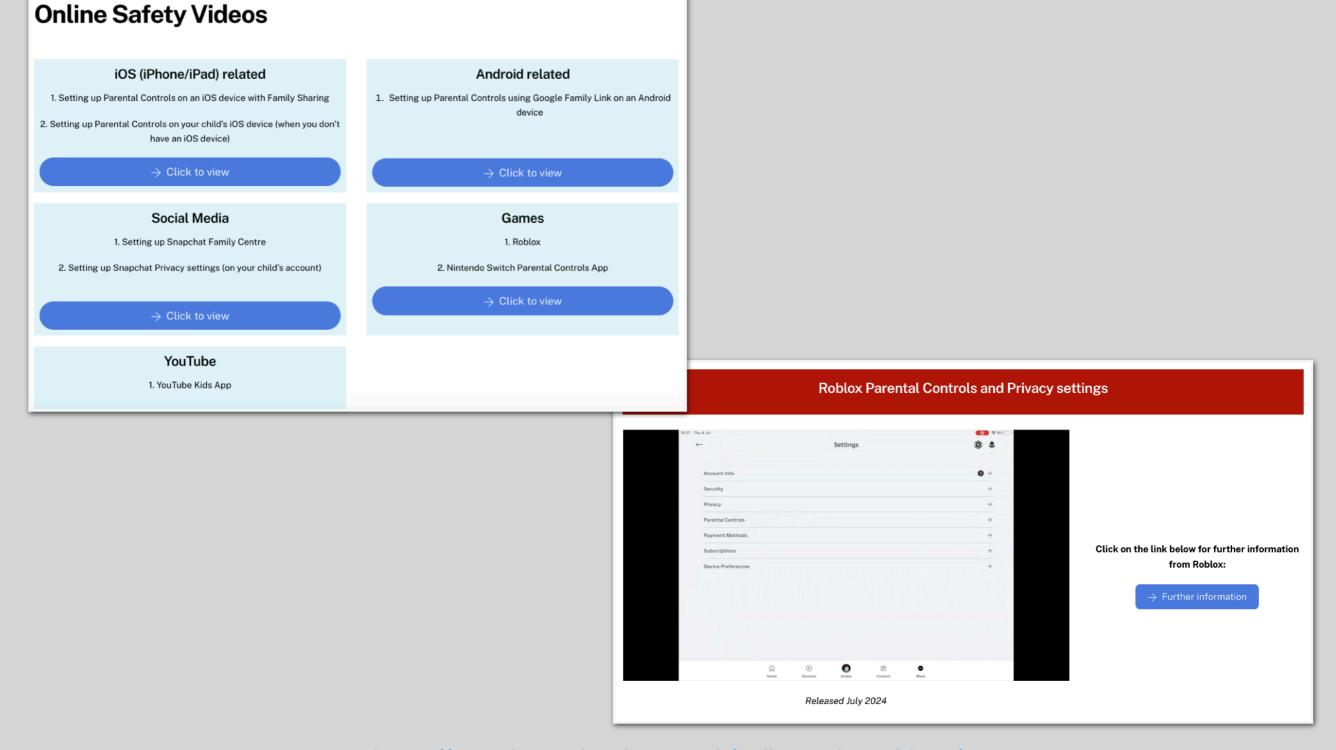
All the major Broadband and mobile operators provide filtering or parental controls. To find out more about these including instructions on activating them can be found on the Internet Matters website.

Test My Internet Filter

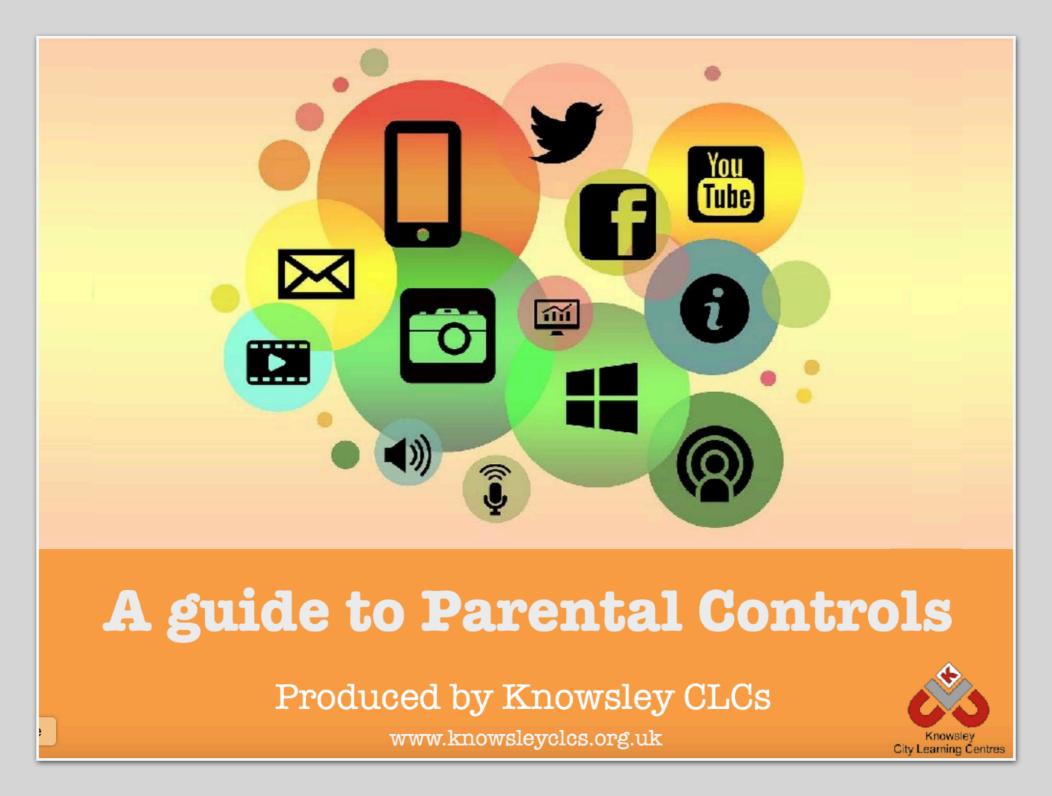
http://testfiltering.com/

Parental Controls

Our Parental Controls Videos



Our Parental Controls Guide Booklet

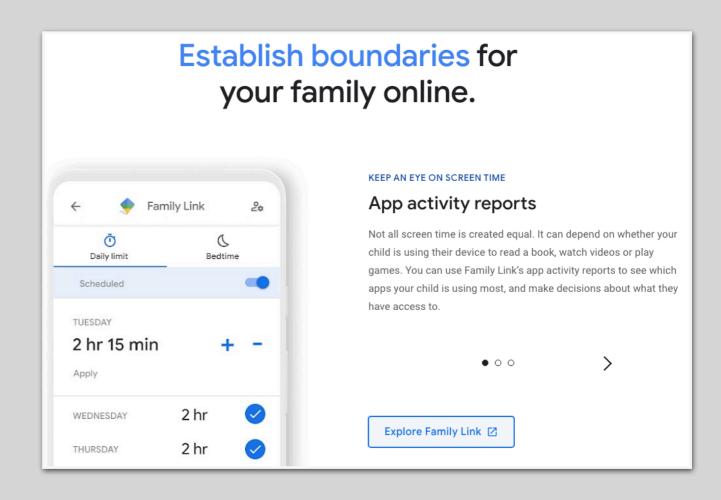




Google Family Link

Available on App and Android Stores and from here you can:

- Monitor Screen Time.
- Manage Apps.
- Set sleep time.
- See where they are.





Apple Parental Control

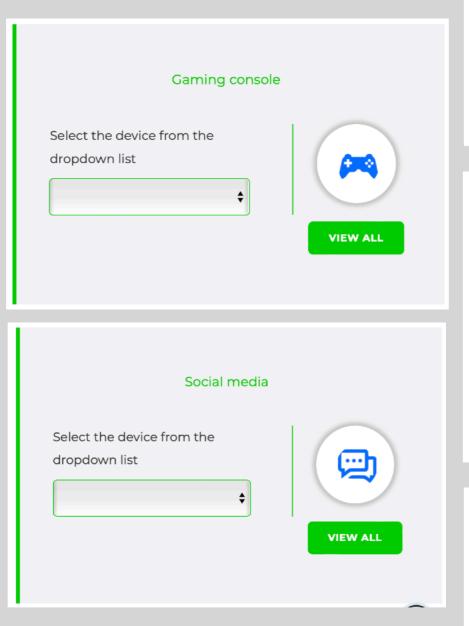
From here you can:

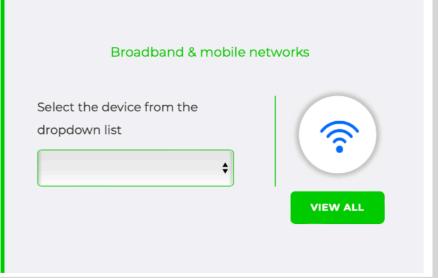
- Restrict Apps
- Set time limits
- Filter web content
- Restrict the game centre.

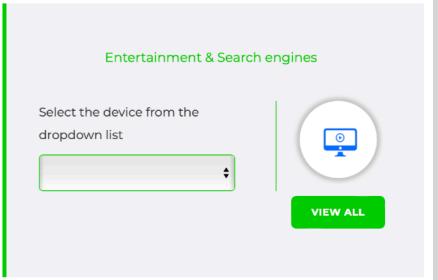


11:37	∎1∥ 4G ■	
∠ Back Content Restrictions		
Ratings For	United Kingdom >	
Music, Podcasts, News & Workouts Explicit >		
Music Videos	On >	
Music Profiles	On >	
Movies	Allow All Movies >	
TV Shows	Allow All TV Shows >	
Books	Explicit >	
Apps	Allow All Apps >	
App Clips	Allow >	
WEB CONTENT		
Web Content	Unrestricted Access >	
SIRI		
Web Search Content	Allow >	
Explicit Language	Allow >	
GAME CENTER		
Multiplayer Games	Allow with Everyone >	
Adding Friends	Allow >	

Internet matters also contains parental control guides for dozens of other devices including games consoles and smartphones









Support for you

- You can alway speak to:
 - CEOP
 - NSPCC
 - School
- Or for more general information you can visit these sites:
 - UK Safer Internet Centre (https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/)
 - Internet Matters (https://www.internetmatters.org/)
 - The Parent Zone (https://parentzone.org.uk/home)
 - Webwise (https://www.webwise.ie/)