

Dear Parents/Carers

22.05.20

During school closures due to the Covid-19 outbreak, more children and young people are spending extended periods of time online and using devices.

It is vital that children and young people are kept safe when online at all times. Please take time to sit with your child and monitor their online activity closely.

As a parent or carer, you can monitor your child's Internet use, set parental controls and prevent certain Apps being downloaded in the first place.

We don't endorse any app over another and new apps or controls are in place every day, which some net-savvy young people can get around.

THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO KEEP A CHILD SAFE ARE

1. **Show an interest** in their life and what apps they are using and how they work.
2. **Model** responsible social media behaviour yourself.
3. Talk to your child about what is going on online and who they are talking to.
4. Ensure you have your young child's **passwords and pins** for devices and apps.
5. **Listen** if they seem down or concerned about anything they have seen or experienced online.
6. **Report** any serious concerns or seek further help.

Latest information and advice about parental controls and monitoring can be found on a number of websites, including: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/livestreaming-online-video-apps/>

Please ensure that safety settings and passwords on mobile devices, apps, PC's, laptops, tablets and consoles are turned on at all times. Internet Matters website has many resources to support you with this: <https://www.internetmatters.org/>

More information about online safety during the school closures can be found at:

<https://coronavirus.lgfl.net/safeguarding>

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/keeping-children-happy-and-safe-online-during-covid-19>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

Kind regards,

William Humphrey
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