



THE BELVEDERE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

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Online Safety Advice for Early Years

Internet Matters have teamed up with EE to create 'Online Safety Starts Early.' This is a 4-episode series, for those with children in Early Years. Episode one highlights how to create positive habits from the beginning and then provides links to additional resources.

www.internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/online-safety-video-guides-early-years/



92% of under-5s use video-sharing platforms (VSPs) like YouTube.



48% of under-5s send messages or make video calls on devices.



23% of under-5s use social media apps or sites.



38% of under-5s have their own YouTube profile.

Source: [Children's Media Use and Attitudes 2023 \(Ofcom\)](#) – data on 3-4-year-olds

New Devices

Has your child received a new device for Christmas? Santa's great, *but he can't set up parental controls!*

Consoles

All consoles offer parental controls such as limiting the time spent on the device or restricting who your child can communicate with. Find out more for a specific device below:

- **Playstation:** [Click here](#)
- **Xbox:** [Click here](#)
- **Nintendo Switch:** [Click here](#)

Mobiles & Tablets

You can set up parental controls on most mobile devices. Additionally, make sure appropriate settings are applied on the apps your child is using.

- **Apple devices:** [Click here](#)
- **Android devices:** [Click here](#)



Mobile Phones

If you are thinking about giving your child their own phone, then you might find this article from Family Lives useful as it discusses things you should consider:

www.familylives.org.uk/advice/primary/health-and-development/does-your-child-need-a-mobile-phone

BPS Pupils Online Safety Survey 2023-24

Children in Years 2 - 6 have recently completed a short survey which asked them a range of questions which included which social media apps they use, where they access the internet, what devices they use to access the internet and whether their online friends are the same as their real friends. There were around 90 responses to the survey which the children completed in their weekly Computing lesson, with some of the results of the survey below:

- 85% of children use a tablet or iPad to access the internet at home.
- 56% of children access the internet in their own bedroom.
- 43% of children access the internet for 1-2 hours per day.
- Only 50% of children talk to an adult at home about safe rules for internet browsing.
- 94% of children surveyed use the internet for online gaming.
- 30% of children have a Snapchat account while 25% have a TikTok account. **Both of these apps have an age rating of 13+.**

Online safety continues to be an important part of our Computing and PHSE curriculum in school for Years 1 - 6. As evidence of this, the survey showed that 76% of children know what personal information is and know that it shouldn't be shared online, while 93% of children said that they would know what to do if something or someone made them feel uncomfortable online.



READ ALL ABOUT IT!



Does your child play Fortnite? Virgin Media have given information on how to set up parental controls. [Click here to find out more.](#)

Parent Zone, VoiceBox and Meta have created a series of videos explaining the safety and parental control tools available when using VR headsets and how to have a conversation with your child about VR. [Click here to find out more.](#)

EE Learn has everything your child needs to make learning online fun, accessible and safe. With tools to help them protect their wellbeing and navigate life in the online world, plus all the tech they need to learn well from anywhere, whatever network they're on. [Click here to find out more.](#)



Managing Screen Time

Are you worried your child has too much screen time or would like more advice on how to support your child in managing their screen time? Internet Matters have a wealth of information on their website to help support you.

- [This link discusses how to get the most out of screen time and how to talk to your child about screen time based on their age.](#)
- [This link provides advice on how to tackle too much screen time and what the signs of too much screen time might be.](#)
- [This final link provides a guide on how to balance screen time.](#)

Useful links for more support:

[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Information, Advice and Support to Keep Children Safe Online \(internetmatters.org\)](#)

[National Online Safety | Keeping Children Safe Online in Education](#)