



Online Safety Guidance

Moggerhanger Primary School

Edition 1 of 3

Friday 29th January, 2021

With the majority of children now learning and studying from home, they will be spending more time online doing their school work. They are, potentially, also more likely to be spending time playing games or socialising through the internet. Technology is hugely valuable for education, as well as being a way to keep in touch with friends and family. However, it is important that we all consider how we can help keep young people safer online, particularly during a time of lockdown when people are more susceptible to the dangers of the internet. Through a series of three short newsletters we, therefore, hope to share some information about what your child may enjoy online, and what you can do to help keep them safer. If you would like further guidance and support on e-safety please visit our website.

Online Gaming

Online games are social activities, and most have features that allow young people to chat with others while they play.

For information about the positives of gaming, the risks of 'in-game chat' and measures you can take to help protect them, watch this short video: [In-game chat: a guide for parents and guardians.](#)



The PEGI (Pan European Game Information) rating system can be a useful tool to help you decide what online games are appropriate for your child.

For more information on the PEGI system and other factors to consider before deciding what's suitable, read [Gaming: what's appropriate for your child](#)



Gaming is popular with both children and adults and can help to cure that lockdown boredom. If your child is gaming, you may have some questions about how to keep them safer. If so, check out - [gaming: what parents need to know.](#)

For a guide on the apps, sites and games your child might enjoy, visit: [Net Aware.](#)

Social Media

You may be wondering when would be the best age to let your child have a social media account, or you may have some concerns, if they're already using them. For advice and guidance, read [Is your child ready for social media?](#)

Remember, most social media services require users to be at least 13 years of age before they can register.



Most young people have positive experiences socialising online, but it can be easy for young people to share things or post things they wish they hadn't.

The simplest way to have information about your child removed from a website, or app is to contact the site itself. Read [reporting to social media sites](#) for more information.

Social media can offer young people opportunities to express themselves and have fun, but they could be exposed to harmful content which might include sexual images or videos which could impact on their understanding of sex and relationships.

For information, read [Teens and the sexual content on social media.](#)

More Information?



ThinkUKnow is the education programme from the National Crime Agency's Child Protection Command CEOP (NCA-CEOP). Their aim is to protect children and young people from sexual abuse online.

For more information, advice and guidance, visit their [parents website](#) and download their [home activity worksheets](#) for fun, online safety activities to do with your family.