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Dear Parent,

We are aware that with the recent school closures children may be spending more time online. To support your child’s safety online we have looked at a number of weblinks that may help in the forthcoming weeks. We have divided the information into common problems and provided resources that can help keep parents informed. The categories include;

**Keeping your child safe online**

**Keeping up to date with the latest apps**

**Applying parental controls to digital devices, gaming consoles and social media**

**Reporting issues to social media sites**

**Gaming – what parents need to know**

# Keeping your child safe online

Thinkuknow have produced a helpful resource to help keeping your child safe online while they are off school. For your convenience we have attached this PDF file to the email.

# Keeping up to date with the latest apps.

If you’re concerned about keeping up-to-date with the latest apps your child has been using, NSPCC's Net Aware provides simple guides for parents to the most popular social networks, apps and games. Simply type in the app you wish to review in the search bar and the website will provide you with useful information to help parents make an informed decision. https://[www.net-aware.org.uk/](http://www.net-aware.org.uk/)



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# Parental Controls

Internet Matters.org have produced excellent resources on setting up parental controls in a step by step format. Simply click on the links below to explore ways in which parents can set up parental controls on digital devices and popular social media apps. Each circular icon that is loaded represents a guide and can be accessed by simply clicking on the icon.

Parental controls on; **Smartphones and other devices**  https://[www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-](http://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-) controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/

Parental controls on; **Entertainment and search engines**  https://[www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-](http://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-) controls/entertainment-search-engines/

Parental controls on; **Broadband and mobile networks**  https://[www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-](http://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-) controls/broadband-mobile/

Parental controls on; **Social media**  https://[www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-](http://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-) controls/social-media/

Parental controls on; **Gaming console**  https://[www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-](http://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-) controls/gaming-consoles/

# Gaming: What parents need to know.

Thinkuknow have produced some useful guidelines on online gaming for young people. https://[www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/)



On the right of the weblink above you will also find a section on ‘finding appropriate games for you child’ with a link to the ‘Video Standards Council Rating Board’ website which allows you to search a game to review a breakdown of the content. You can also access this website by clicking on this link; https://videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/

We hope that these resources will help you to monitor your child’s online activities and keep them safe in a digitally changing world.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. M. Elliott

Head Teacher