



December 2024 Online Safety Update



This Month's Online Safety Theme: Parental Controls on Devices

As the festive season approaches, many parents may be considering gifts for their children. With holiday sales in full swing, it's a prime time to purchase new tech gadgets or devices, such as smartphones or iPads. However, with the arrival of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, it's easy to feel pressured into making hasty decisions rather than taking the time to conduct thorough research.

Before wrapping these gifts and presenting them to your child, it's crucial to set up parental controls. These features enable you to monitor the websites your child visits and restrict access to inappropriate content, including sexual, violent, or otherwise unsuitable material.

For additional information on parental controls, visit the NSPCC website: [NSPCC Parental Controls](#). This resource outlines what parental controls are, why they are important, and provides specific instructions for various devices. Many internet service providers also offer free parental settings.

When purchasing a new device, it's wise to consult the salesperson for advice on how to set up filters and parental controls. If you're shopping online, the instruction manual should have relevant information, or you can contact the manufacturer for assistance. Remember not to rush into giving the device to your child before establishing safety boundaries, such as time limits, how you will monitor their online activities, and where in the house they will be allowed to use the device.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's online safety or any other safeguarding matters, please don't hesitate to contact the pastoral team at 0121 569 7080.

