



Welcome to the December 2024 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents and Carers

Remember — Talk to your child about Online Safety!

Scomis would like to sign-post you to websites offering advice and guidance to parents and carers on key online safety issues.

Visit the following websites to find out:

Parentzone – [Guides for parents](#) review free digital guides, advice and videos on social media including:

[Chat GPT and Artificial Intelligence](#) [Virtual Reality](#),

[Loot Boxes](#) including connection to gambling

CommonSense Media – [Age based media reviews](#) for families, including Games, Apps, Films and TV, books.

ThinkUKnow - [Advice on keeping your under 5 safe](#)

Learn about [Jessie & Friends](#)—advice for 4-7 year olds. Watch the advice [films for 8-10 year olds](#)

Review the [advice for 11-18 year olds](#)

Get Safe Online advice on how to [protect yourself](#), your family, your finances and devices online during the festive season.

National Cyber Security Centre advice for individuals to respond to an online scam including:

[Phishing](#) [online shopping fraud](#) [hacked accounts](#) and more!

UK Safer Internet Centre

[Tips for parents and carers with children of all ages](#) including top tips for 3-7 year olds

[Tips for 7-11 year olds](#) top scams to look out for

[Tips for 11-14 year olds](#) top scams to look out for

[Tips for 14-18 year olds](#) how to stay up to date with common and emerging scams

Reminder—Be a good digital parent!

- Keep your passwords safe and **do not** share them
- Schedule notifications to turn off for certain times of the day
- Think about what **you** are sharing online. Are you sharing too much and putting your kids in danger?
- Give practical tips for dealing with unwanted content, conduct or contact
- Reassure your child that they can talk to you or another trusted adult to ask for help

Need help? Visit the following websites for more guidance:

Vodafone's Digital Parenting Helping your family live a happy and safe digital life. Includes:

[Parental controls tips and toolkit](#)

[Screen time and phones](#)

[Help is at hand](#)—guide to free online support

Childnet's Parent and Carers [Toolkit](#). Access to resources offering practical tips on keeping your child safe online, including:

[Parents and Carers Resource Sheet](#)

[Start discussions about their online life](#),

[Set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use](#),

[Find out where to get more help and support](#)

UK Safer Internet Centre's

[Advice on key online issues](#)

[Social Media](#) [Live Streaming](#) [Online Bullying](#) [Gaming](#)

plus guidance on [how to report](#), when to report, where to report.

Internet Matters

[Helping parents keep their children safe online](#) find out about trending topics such as [market place Apps like Temu](#).

Parents and Carers
Key Online Safety Resources

Childnet

Childnet have a dedicated area to support parents and carers with information on key topics, advice and activities to share with your child.

Remember—Set up devices!

Scomis would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some important safety points if your child is likely to receive a:

- SMART device (TV, Speaker—Alexa, Google)
- new mobile phone (Android/iPhone)
- games console
- tablet PC or laptop

Consider the following tips:

- Make sure the device is working correctly
- Charge it up
- Set up the device and try it before you wrap it up
- Check the parental controls
- Check the safety settings
- Ensure filtering is applied to your home's Wi-Fi

Need help with the above points. Check advice published on the following websites:

Internet Matters [Parental controls](#) Step by step guides for Broadband, Smartphones, Social Media, Games Consoles. View and download their [checklist](#).

Parentzone [Setting up new technology](#) Access Parentzone's library of resources [here](#). Read their complete guide to setting up [SMART toys and speakers](#)

Childnet review advice on [Screen Time](#) and boundaries. Find out what the ['experts'](#) and ['parents'](#) say.

UK Safer Internet Centre's Parent Guide Advice on using: [SMART speakers safely](#) (Alexa) includes setting up parental controls

[SMART TVs](#) includes how to use safely and parental controls

[Games Consoles](#) includes top tips to stay safe - **think about the**

location of the game console!

Try the [NSPCC's Online Safety quiz](#)

STOP PRESS! In this newsletter, we have also included a link to Netflix's

[Help Centre for setting up Parental Controls](#)

Learn how to:

[Create a profile for kids](#)

[Set profile maturity ratings or block titles](#)

[Turn autoplay previews on or off](#)

[Access viewing history for a profile](#)

REMEMBER BEFORE YOU WRAP IT—SET IT UP!

Online Safety resources for children with SEND

[NSPCC](#) partnering with [Ambitious about Autism](#), have created

online safety tips, advice and

activities for parents and carers of children with

SEND, including children with dyslexia, autism and

speech and language difficulties.

Access resources listed below:

[Sharing personal details](#)

[Friendships online](#)

[One-page profile](#)

[Cyberbullying for children with SEND visual article](#)

[Talking to people online for children with SEND visual article](#)



Remember — Many devices now connect to the Internet!

- Internet connected devices can send and receive data
- Doorbells, CCTV, Toys, robots, drones and much more
- Software developers or hackers may be connected to your device without your knowledge
- Baby monitors, children's tablets, drone toys, can be hacked and used by people outside of your home.

Find out how to keep you and your family safe and visit the

[NSPCC's website](#)

HELP IN THE HOLIDAYS!

Don't forget! advice is just a phone

call away from the [NSPCC](#) helpline

0808 800 5000

Childline **0800 1111**

Websites to check:

[Childnet's Parent and Carer's](#)

[Toolkit](#)

[ThinkUKnow's advice for Parents](#)

Have a happy safe
Christmas!



SCOMIS
Your ICT Partner