

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Keeping your child safe online

You don't need to be a technology expert to keep your child safe online. Understanding a few common risks and safety settings can go a long way towards protecting them.



ROBLOX

Roblox is a collection of millions of user-created games and virtual experiences that children can play, create and share with others online. It combines gaming, creativity and social features, allowing children and adults to explore virtual worlds, play with friends and even build their own games.



RISKS

- ❗ Messages or friend requests from strangers
- ❗ Some games contain adult content
- ❗ **Robux** purchases add up fast
- ❗ Games are designed to be addictive
- ❗ Strangers may persuade children to share personal information

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- ✓ Set the correct age
- ✓ Turn on **Account Restrictions** to limit content
- ✓ Lock safety settings with a **Parent PIN**
- ✓ Disable chat unless needed
- ✓ Monitor games and friend requests

SNAPCHAT

Snapchat is a messaging and social media app that allows people to send photos, videos and messages, many of which disappear after they have been viewed. It is popular with young people for chatting with friends, sharing everyday moments and using filters and other creative features.



RISKS

- ❗ Messages disappear quickly making it harder to monitor negativity such as sexting or bullying
- ❗ Location exposure - **Snap Map** shares your child's live location
- ❗ Strangers can message your child unless restricted

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- ✓ Enable **Ghost Mode** to hide location
- ✓ Change privacy settings to **Friends Only**
- ✓ Turn off **Quick Add** (prevents random adds)
- ✓ Talk about responsible photo/video sharing

TikTok

TikTok is a social media app that allows users to create, share and watch short videos, often personalised to their interests through a recommendation algorithm.



RISKS

- ❗ Harmful trends or unsafe challenges
- ❗ Profiling influences your child's content
- ❗ Algorithm may suggest adult content
- ❗ Comments and likes can affect self-esteem
- ❗ Temptation to 'go viral' adds pressure

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- ✓ Use **Family Pairing** to link your account
- ✓ Set daily time limits in the app
- ✓ Turn on **Restricted mode** to filter content
- ✓ Disable comments on your child's posts

Instagram

Instagram allows people to share photos, videos and messages, and follow friends, celebrities, influencers and organisations.



RISKS

- ❗ Direct contact from strangers
- ❗ Personalised feeds and profiling
- ❗ Exposure to inappropriate or adult content
- ❗ Repeated recommendations

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- ✓ Set the account to **Private**
- ✓ Turn off **Location Sharing**
- ✓ Use screen time limits
- ✓ Show how to block and report users

WhatsApp

WhatsApp is a messaging app that allows people to send messages, make voice and video calls, and share photos, videos and files with friends, family and groups over the internet.



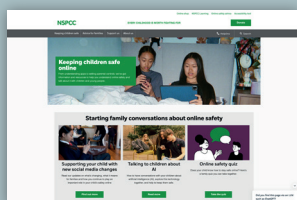
RISKS

- ❗ Possible exposure of telephone number
- ❗ Contact from stranger if your child is added to a group chat
- ❗ Pressure to respond immediately
- ❗ Scam, phishing links and fake messages

WHAT YOU CAN DO

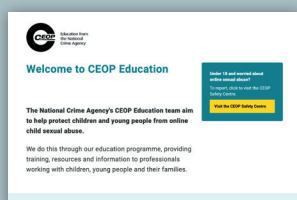
- ✓ Set the correct age
- ✓ Turn on **Account Restrictions** in settings
- ✓ Use a **Parent PIN** to lock safety settings
- ✓ Disable chat unless your child needs it
- ✓ Monitor game list and friend requests

Trusted websites



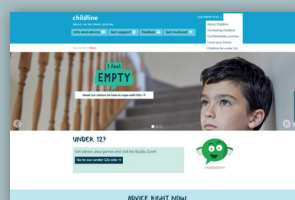
NSPCC

Keeping children safe online



CEOP

Education from the National Crime Agency



Childline

Support for young people



Guernsey Police Resources

For parents and children U18

You don't need to be a tech expert to keep your child safe online. Be involved, curious and supportive.

Even one safety setting or one honest chat can make a huge difference.



T: 742074 E: info@odpa.gg W: odpa.gg

...or **drop-in** to our office:

Block A, Lefebvre Court, Lefebvre Street,
St. Peter Port GY1 2JP