

# Welcome to the March 2025 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents and Carers

## Access to advice/help for parents and carers

With the Easter break almost here, SCOMIS is reminding parents and carers of where they can find advice and/or help with Online Safety Issues. Knowing where to look and what to look for can be a challenge! The following websites have lots of information, summarised as follows:

Find out how to keep children safe online with the NSPCC's guides, including:

### Online safety advice

How to start Age-appropriate Online Safety conversations with your child, including:

- links to resources for under 11s – watch the [video](#) 'Talk PANTS'
- read the NSPCC's guide [Positive Parenting](#) for older children and teenagers
- find out how to talk to children about [difficult topics](#)
- [online safety quiz](#)



### Online safety guides for parents

Advice for parents to understand the [risks of online games](#) Find out about [different social media platforms](#) and how to help children stay safe

Get advice about how to keep children safe using [internet connected devices and toys](#):

- Smart speakers - Google Home and Amazon Echo
- Wearables, such as Fitbit and Apple Watch
- Robots, drones and other mechanical toys
- Smart TVs
- Tips for keeping your family safe

### Online wellbeing

Discover 6 Top Tips to support your child's online wellbeing and take the [quiz](#)

Get the family together, have a discussion before you answer each question and choose your answer together!



### Resources for children with SEND

NSPCC Partnered with *Ambitious about Autism* to create online safety tips, advice and activities for parents and carers of [children with SEND](#) including:

- [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](#)

### Need help or to talk to someone?

Call the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000

Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

Complete the NSPCC [online form](#) to get advice and help from safeguarding experts.

## Online Gaming

Scomis has previously included articles on advice and guidance for parents and carers on Online Gaming. With the Easter break about to commence, check the following websites :

**Childnet**—[Online Gaming: an introduction for parents and carers](#) includes :

- introduction to online gaming
- how and where to play online games
- the risks
- SMART rules
- online gaming FAQs

**Parentzone**—[Gaming: a parent's guide | Parent Zone](#)

includes advice on:

- the links between gaming and gambling
- what you need to know about gaming communities
- top tips on helping your child play games safely
- inappropriate content
- how much time is too much time?

**Family Lives**—[Gaming | Family Lives](#) (10 minute read)

includes advice on:

- key points
- talking to your child about gaming
- keeping teens safe

Check the [South West Grid for Learning's Gaming Hub](#) to find out the benefits of gaming and:

- why people game
- about the gaming community
- explore virtual reality
- Esports

## Digital Age starts at age of 2!

Common Sense Media's recent survey (published February 2025) examined the digital media habits for children aged 8 and under. The study shows:

- 40% of 2 year olds have Tablets (iPads)
- Gaming time jumps 65%,
- 1 in 3 young children use Artificial Intelligence (AI) for learning
- Traditional TV viewing has declined
- Short-form video platforms – TikTok and YouTube Shorts are on the rise

The 2025 Common Sense Census: **Media Use by Kids Zero to Eight**

Read the full [report](#)

Watch the [video of key findings](#)



## Where to get help

Visit the [UK Safer Internet Centre's](#) website to access details and links for a number of organisations that can help with:

- [Safety tools guide](#) for Social Media
- [Reporting on Social Media](#)
- Reporting Criminal Content Online and much more!

Remember FREE advice is just a phone call away from Childline: 0800 1111

**SCOMIS**  
Your ICT Partner