

Welcome to the May 2021 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

Online Safety Bill Announced



Outlining what are described as 'landmark laws' to protect children and young people online, the government has released its

draft [Online Safety Bill](#), establishing a new regulatory framework to tackle harmful content online.

The draft Bill includes changes to put an end to harmful practices, while ushering in a new era of accountability and protections for democratic debate, including:

- Further provisions to tackle prolific online scams
- Social media sites, website, apps and other services hosting user-generated content or allowing people to talk to others must remove and limit the spread of illegal and harmful content
- Ofcom will be given the power to fine companies failing in a **new duty of care** up to £18 million

Read the draft Bill in detail [here](#)

Actively involved in the arguments for this draft Bill, Parent Zone's responses and recommendations to the [Online Harms White Paper](#) (July 2019) and the government's review in December 2020 can be read [here](#)

Need Help?

Visit [Childnet's website](#) to find out what to do if your child comes to you and needs help:

- Remember 'Communication is essential'
- Save the evidence wherever possible
- Evidence may include screen shots
- Knowing who to report to is a really useful step to resolve many issues
- [Find out how to make a report](#)
- Familiarise yourself with the reporting services available
[CEOP](#); [INTERNET WATCH FOUNDATION](#); [CHILDLINE](#); [OFCOM](#); [TRUE VISION](#)
- Remember it may be necessary to inform your child's school too. (**Designated Safeguarding Lead**)

Set up parental controls!

The [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) has provided video tutorials for parents and carers to help you find out how to prevent age inappropriate content being accessed online on computers in your home. [BT](#); [SKY](#); [TALKTALK](#); [VIRGIN MEDIA](#)

HELP IN THE HOLIDAYS! Remember **FREE** advice is just a phone call away from the O₂ and NSPCC helpline **0800 800 002** and Childline **0800 1111**

UK Council for Safer Internet Council - Digital Passport

What the tool offers:

- Help to empower the child's digital life in a positive and supportive way
- Support agreements about internet access and use of devices between carers and children
- Help to make the most of what technology offers

How does it work?

The Digital Passport can be used as a way of discussing views, feelings and experiences around a child's digital life

Provides children in care with a way of opening up a conversation about how they can be best supported



An Introduction
Helping children, young people and their carers make the most of technology through relationship building and communication

[Digital Passport for children and young people](#)

Have you heard of Whisper?

Recommended Age 17+

Whisper is a social 'confessional' app that allows users to post whatever's on their mind, which is then paired with an image.



The app encourages private communications in which users can exchange images and personal information. The location sharing feature in this app helps users connect with other users nearby.

The iOS app requires users to confirm they're at least 17 years old before they download the app.

[Common Sense Media's view](#) -

It is absolutely not an app for children!

Find out more about this App at:

- [Commonsense Media](#)
- [Smart Social](#)

Disney+ Parental Controls and Privacy Settings

As Disney+ adds more mature content to the streaming site with Disney+ Star, [SWGFL's blog](#) looks at the privacy settings and parental controls available.

Read the blog in detail to find out more about:

- Restricting Mature Content
- Filtering content for the family
- Adding Child Profiles

If you or your child need further support, visit the SWGFL's support pages on [Report Harmful Content](#) to find more bespoke Advice.

