

Online safety tips for parents of pre-school children

0-5 Year Olds

Checklist

Put yourself in control

Make use of the parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or by visiting internetmatters.org.

Search safely

Use safe search engines such as swiggle.org.uk or kids-search.com. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines as well as YouTube. You can find out more at google.co.uk/safetycentre.

Set boundaries

It's never too early to start setting rules about when and for how long your child can use devices and start to introduce the subject of internet safety at the same time. Encourage children to use devices in a communal area, keep other devices out of reach and use passwords so they can't go online without asking you first.

Explore together

Set your homepage to a child-friendly site such as CBeebies and give them a user account which only allows access to sites and apps you've chosen.

Help them learn through games

Games are a great way for young children to explore the internet and learn about the world around them. You can choose safe, fun and educational games free of charge from providers such as Fisher Price or about their favourite characters like Peppa Pig.

Pre-school children are online for an average of 71 minutes a day*

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Over half of 3-4 year olds use tablets*

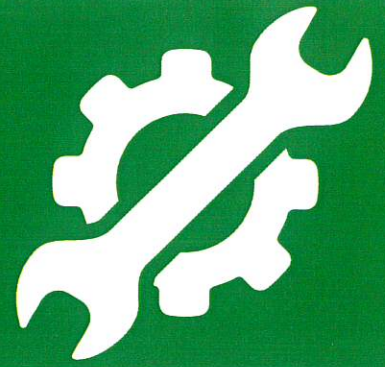
Children can now have a digital footprint before they learn to speak and often before they're even born.

Internet Matters is a free online resource for every parent in the UK. We'll show you the best ways to protect your children online as they grow up - with information, advice and support on all the big e-safety issues.

**internet
matters.org**

*Source: Ofcom Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2016

Set Up Safe checklist



We've designed a simple checklist to give you peace of mind regarding your child's safety on the internet.

Set your children's device up before you give it to them so you know they're safe online as soon as they start playing.



Set parental controls on your broadband to prevent your children seeing things they shouldn't

[Visit our step-by-step guides to find out how](#)



For smart phones check parental controls are also set up on the mobile network

Set up the device safely

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Use the device setting so you can only download age appropriate apps and games



Disable location services so your child doesn't unintentionally share their location with others



Set up password control or disable in-app purchasing so big bills are not run up accidentally



Download age appropriate apps you're happy for your child to use



Talk about staying safe



If your children are 8-10 years old, download our parent / child Internet Matters app to help you talk about e-safety issues in an interactive way.



Be aware of key issues and how to discuss them with your children so they know how to stay safe online



[Click here to learn about key issues](#)



If your child is using social networking apps check their profile and privacy settings, making sure they are not sharing personal or private information with people they do not know



[Visit our handy social networking how to guides for checking privacy settings](#)

internet
matters.org

Helping parents keep
their children safe online.