

Facebook launches new live streaming app - no privacy settings:

You will hopefully be aware of TikTok (previously Musically) which allows for short (15 second) live streaming videos and the concerns particularly regarding CSE. Facebook look to be getting in on the action with their own version called Lasso. As I type this the app has just come out in the US; historically that means it will be here in the UK very soon. Concerningly, the app has been reported as having NO privacy settings. Quite what Facebook are thinking is beyond words. If I'm honest I don't think we're going to see much activity, Facebook are really behind the times but as long as you're aware then staff can keep their ears to the ground. For a little more information see [HERE](#).

Fortnite scams and the new Call of Duty:

Fortnite is the most popular game I have ever seen, so it's no surprise to see scams in big numbers. Between September and October this year there were over 53,000 reported scams! Most of these scams are preying on the vulnerability of children when they're searching for V-Bucks (in-game currency) so it's worth having a chat with children and letting parents know. See [HERE](#) for some more information.

Call of Duty Black Ops 4 was recently released and it has the same player mode as Fortnite (Battle Royale). I haven't had time to have a play yet but my son has (he's over 20). He tells me that the violence/gore is much more than previous versions of COD. I've been to a few primary schools this past couple of weeks and I'm already seeing growing numbers of Y5/6 playing the game. Please re-iterate age ratings to parents. I have spoken to some parents that think the age rating is actually a 'difficulty level.'

Children are being 'datafied' from birth:

The Children's Commissioner has released another fantastic report, this time looking at the concerns about how much data is held on children. The Commissioner is calling on schools to teach children about how their data is held, by whom and for what purposes. It's an interesting report and well worth a read if you have an interest in privacy. See [HERE](#) to download the report.

The big myth about teenage anxiety:

Every day we're bombarded with stories about addiction (social media, gaming, internet in general) or that technology is making our children and young people more anxious. The fact is there is very little real, compelling evidence to prove this. Many will have different opinions, but I think this short article is a very balanced opinion - [HERE](#).