

# Online Safety for Parents & Carers



**Stay safe online**

# Aims....

- To consider what children and young people are *actually* doing online
- To explore some of the issues surrounding online safety – risks and benefits – the different types of risk...
- To provide some possible solutions



“There are three ways to get something done; do it yourself, hire someone or forbid your kids to do it”

Mona Crane



# What is Online Safety?

Keeping our children safe online

- not about restricting them but educating them
- being educated ourselves how to help



Q= What is the Digital Divide?



alamy

Image ID: 26695D  
www.alamy.com

# NSPCC – What are the risks young people face online?

<https://www.google.com/gasearch?q=ai%20risks%20for%20children%20nspcc&udm=7&source=sh/x/gs/m2/5#fpstate=ive&ip=1&vld=cid:4b007904,vid:AqtRINrCLVQ,st:0>

- Who is your child chatting to?
- What are they sharing?
- What are they seeing?



# Roblox - what you need to know...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StM7dYUUIU>



## Grow a Garden

Main article: [Grow a Garden](#)

*Grow a Garden* is an idle video game released in March 2025. The player begins with an empty plot of farmland and some currency to purchase seeds. By planting and harvesting crops, they can earn money to buy progressively more exotic plants, where it is visible to other players on the same server.<sup>[66]</sup> The game is known for breaking multiple concurrent user (CCU) records, with at least 22.3 million players having been online on August 23, 2025. Previous CCU peaks include over 16 million on June 21, the highest ever recorded in [video game history](#) (surpassing *Fortnite*'s 15.3 million).<sup>[67][68]</sup>

On November 5, 2025, *Grow a Garden* is announced to have a movie, produced by *Story Kitchen*.<sup>[69]</sup>



## Steal a Brainrot

Main article: [Steal a Brainrot](#)

*Steal a Brainrot* is a 2025 multiplayer [video game](#) developed by SpyderSammy where players buy and steal Brainrots, characters based on the [Italian brainrot](#) meme which generate income over time. Owned by DoBig Studios, *Steal a Brainrot* is the second Roblox game to have surpassed 20 million concurrent users (CCU), the first being [Grow a Garden](#).<sup>[115]</sup> The game was popularized on social media, where users have shared strategy tips and viral clips of upset children who had lost their Brainrots.<sup>[116]</sup>





If you can't play it or are blocked  
– youtube it instead – see  
others playing it / doing it /  
asking the questions you want  
to ask...

# Where's Klaus?

## Who is your child talking to online?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4GKXsAOYZE>

# AI

These are who your child often  
is speaking to...



# How much do you know?



# How do we use the internet?

## What are the benefits?

- Global
- Learning
- **Fun!**
- Communication
- Friendships and Community
- Shopping
- Accessible 24/7 and quick!

## What are the risks?

Content

Contact

Conduct



# What are children doing on the Web?

- Gaming
- Messaging
- Asking questions (AI)
- Watching Youtube
- Sharing music
- Social networking
- Commenting on others' sites
- And more...



[https://www.internetmatters.org/  
resources/apps-guide/](https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/)

The logo for Internet Matters, featuring the text "internet matters.org" in white lowercase letters on a green rounded square background.

internet  
matters.org



# Are you worried about online sexual abuse or the way someone has been communicating with you online?

Make a report to one of CEOP's Child Protection Advisors

## Should I make a report to CEOP? →

If you're worried about online abuse or the way someone has been communicating online, let CEOP know.



## What happens when I make a report? →

One of our experienced Child Protection Advisors will be there to make sure you get the help that you need.



## How can CEOP help me? →

Online abuse affects many children and young people every day, CEOP has helped thousands of people in need of support.



[Make a report](#) 

# Cyberbullying



## What is Cyberbullying?

The same as bullying but via a device or social media account (not face to face necessarily)

If serious, known as child on child abuse

## Advice for Parents

Be careful about denying access to technology

Be aware your child is as likely to be a bully as a victim

Discuss how to be a good online friend

Report the bullying:

- Service provider
- School
- Police

Keep screenshots

What's the biggest risk...



...that'll you only think of the risks and forget the benefits!

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# Follow the **Golden** Rules

**Ground Rules**

**Online Safety**

**Location**

**Dialogue**

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# Parental Controls

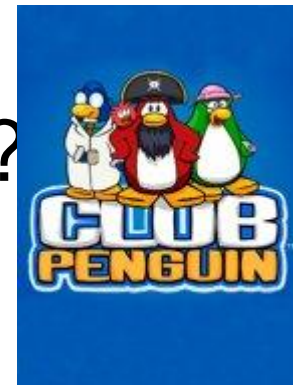
- Can help:
  - Block sites that are not age appropriate
  - Limit inappropriate and illegal material
  - Set timings – automatic switch off at bedtime
  - Monitor activity
- Apply to laptops, devices, computers, mobile phones and games consoles
- But remember no filtering or control is 100%



# Always Consider

## Do you know?

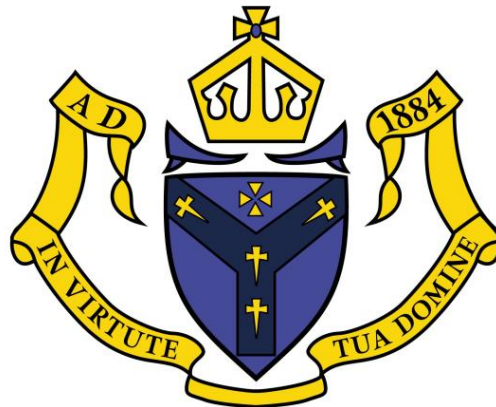
- How these sites or technologies work?
- Is there a section for parents/carers?
- How do you report a problem?
- Can it be made private?
- Are there parental controls?



# Where can I go for more help?

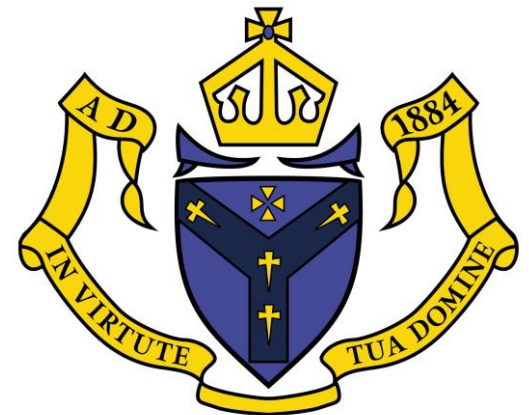
## Our website – easy links

<https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Internet+Safety&pid=71>



# Summary

- Talk to you child: Get involved and learn together. Make sure they know they can come to you if they are worried
- Have family rules/boundaries for safer use e.g. who to add as friends and privacy settings
- Use support from the school, useful websites and other parents



# Any questions?



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Kent [sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk](https://sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk) Joined March 2023

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