

# Online Safety News



Autumn 2020 | PARENT | CARER

## Parents and Carers Toolkit



This toolkit from Childnet provides three resources that offer practical tips and advice on different aspects of keeping your child safe online. They can help support parents and carers of any age child to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support.

The Childnet Parent and Carer toolkit includes:

- Let's talk about life online
- Parents and carers resource sheet
- Family agreement (template)

**Childnet: Parent and Carer toolkit**  
(PDF download)



## Connecting safely online



[Internetmatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org)

have created a hub on their website to help support parents, carers, and young people with additional learning needs to connect safely online across a range of social platforms.

'Social media allows us all to make connections and breakdown barriers. For many young people, it can be a vital part of staying connected to the world around them. This resource hopes to empower young people with the tools to navigate it smartly and safely.'

[internetmatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org)

[Find out more](#)

## In-game chat: What parents and carers need to know



**Thinkuknow** have collaborated with The Association for UK Interactive Entertainment (Ukie) to give advice about online games and chat.

'While playing games online is often great fun, it's important you understand why your children will chat online, what risks there are and what measures you can take to protect them while they're playing their favorite games.'

The new guide and helps parents and carers to understand:

- Why players talk to each other online
- How in-game chat takes place
- The risks of in-game chat and how it might be abused by others
- How in-game chat can be made safer
- How you as a parent/carers can help make the chat a safer experience



[Thinkuknow | In-game chat: what parents and carers need to know](#)

# Hertfordshire Library Service audio and ebooks – Borrow, download and enjoy! BorrowBox

This is a FREE online service from Hertfordshire Library Services and offers library card holders the ability to borrow ebooks and audiobooks (fiction and non-fiction)

1. Install the BorrowBox app on your devices or visit the **Hertfordshire BorrowBox website**.
2. Search for Hertfordshire Libraries
3. Login with you library card number and PIN
4. Search and browse over 9,000 ebooks and 3,500 audiobooks
5. Read or listen online or download it to read offline

Find out more: [Hertfordshire.Gov](http://Hertfordshire.Gov) | [Ebooks and audio books - BorrowBox](#)



Lost your library card or login details or need to register with Hertfordshire Library Services, **join online for free today**

If you live outside Hertfordshire, search for your local library service at [borrowbox.com](http://borrowbox.com)

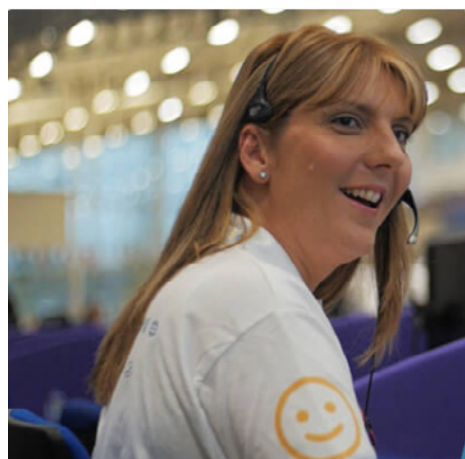
## O<sub>2</sub> and NSPCC helpline and resources

Most of the time children enjoy exploring the internet, playing online games and having contact with friends in a safe and supported environment at home. With children's increased access to the online world, however, can come increased risk and vulnerability to exploitation.

**The O2 and NSPCC helpline** can help parents and carers with any questions or concerns you may have about keeping your child safe online, they can provide advice and help to troubleshoot any problems your family may be facing.

Calls to the O2 advice line Monday – Friday 9:00am – 6:00pm are free of charge 0808 800 5002 or visit their website for further information, resources and activities.

O2 NSPCC advice line



You can also take a look at the **collection of resources from Childnet that you can use from home.**

**Childnet International |  
Online safety activities  
you can do from home**



**Childnet**  
International

## Online safety videos from Childnet



Childnet have produced a series of six video lessons hosted by their experienced education team members and they offer activities and discussion points which help to deliver key online safety messages. The videos are designed for primary children aged six to nine years old .

[Childnet | SMART video lessons](#)

## Protecting Personal Data



**National  
Online  
Safety®**

The National Online Safety team has created a useful guide to help parents and carers understand exactly what they can do to help protect their children's personal data online.

Download your guide:

[National Online Safety | Protecting Personal Data](#)

The guidance is FREE to download, but you will need to register on the site.



The information in the newsletter is given to help promote the safety of children and young people online. Every care has been taken to ensure the information and any recommendations in the newsletter are accurate at the time of publishing.

Schools must make their own judgements when sharing our recommendations with parents and carers and, where appropriate, always risk assess with their pupils and whole school community in mind.

This newsletter is brought to you by the Herts for Learning Wellbeing team as part of their online safety support for schools and settings in Hertfordshire.