

Keeping your child safe online at home

We keep your child safe online in school. There are some things that you can do to keep your child safe online at home.



1

Talk. Having a regular open dialogue with your children about their favourite apps, the games they enjoy, and their online friends, will help create an environment where chatting about online experiences becomes a normal part of family life

2

Be proactive. Take time to research the apps your child is using, the accounts or channels they're following, and the games they're playing, to get a better idea of what they're experiencing.

3

Seek support. Knowing where to get help is essential. Each app or platform will have its own safety guidelines and reporting features, and having knowledge of how to use these will ensure you can make a report, seek help, and support your child.

4

Set up controls. Parental controls are designed to help protect children from inappropriate content online, such as age restricted apps, or other adult content. These controls can be used in various ways, for example to help ensure that children access only age-appropriate content, to set usage times, to monitor activity, or to help prevent in-app purchases.



5

Report. If you see anything that worries you, you can report it at www.reportharmfulcontent.com You should also alert relevant authorities if you are concerned about real-world offline harm.



<https://reportharmfulcontent.com/?lang=en>

Gaming

Time Agree how long your child should be spending playing games (take into account the nature of the game and other commitments like homework).

Spend Check to make sure your child cannot spend money in the game without your permission. If you allow your child to spend pocket money in a game you could buy a pre-paid card.

Age Pegi ratings recommend which age group a game is appropriate for. Talk to your child about the games you want them to play and talk about the games that they might play at a friend's home. Other children might have different rules, so discuss how you might talk to their parents about the boundaries you have set together. Empower your child to say no if they are asked to play a game that they are not old enough to play

Chat It's best that children under 18 play online with only friends that they have met in the real world. If children use the voice or text chat function, it's best in a shared space where adults can hear or see the interactions. This ensures both the child and the parent that the child is safe and is enjoying appropriate interactions.



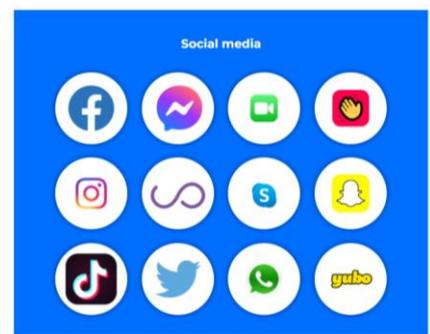
Useful links:

Social Media Privacy How-to Guides

You can find all the latest social media apps and how you as a parent can support your child to activate the safety features built within at <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/>

Online reviews for games and apps

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>



Online safety advice and help for parents

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/ask-the-awkward/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/globalassets/asktheawkward-parents--carers-help-sheets.pdf>

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/report/talking-to-your-child-about-online-sexual-harassment-a-guide-for-parents/>



For more information <https://www.youtube.com/kids/>

Parent Allow listing feature <https://youtu.be/eVYsgC7-6ZM>



Parent Supervised Experience

For more information

https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10314074?hl=en&ref_topic=10314939

<https://youtu.be/nhqvtv3FLSc>

Parental Controls for Echo



<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/smart-speakers-set-up-safe-guide/>

How do I stop explicit songs from playing on my Echo device?

- In the Alexa app, tap the three, horizontal bars in the upper left corner.
- Tap Settings.
- Tap Music & Podcasts, and enable the Explicit Language Filter. Therefore, whether you're using Amazon Music, Spotify, iHeart Music, or another service, Alexa will obey that service's "block explicit music" filter.

How do I prevent my child from ordering 1,000 pizzas from the Echo?

You can require a pin or disable voice ordering altogether.

- Set a pin, tap the three, horizontal lines in the upper, left corner.
- Tap Settings.
- Tap Account Settings and then Voice Purchasing. There you can set a 4-digit purchase code. Or you can toggle off Purchase by Voice altogether

How do I erase my voice history on Echo? (A great privacy step)

- In the Alexa app, tap the three, horizontal bars in the upper left corner.
- Tap Settings.
- Tap Alexa Privacy, and be prepared to be a little freaked out at how much data is collected, but you can also delete your voice history whenever you want. Just say, "Alexa, delete everything I said today."
- The Alexa Privacy Hub informs you how the Echo is built with your privacy in mind and the controls you have over your privacy (but don't believe it -> we all know Amazon is a data collector). After visiting the Alexa Privacy Hub, scroll down until you see, "Alexa Privacy Settings," where you can delete EVERYTHING that's been collected on the device.

Limit the content you see



If you don't like a video, you can simply long-press on that video and tap **Not Interested** to see less of that sort of video in the future.

Set your messaging preferences

For users over 16, only your Friends – those who follow you and you follow back – can send you a private message.

You can unfollow or block a user to stop them from sending a direct message or disable messaging entirely from your privacy settings.

Set your video to private

If you've already uploaded the video: **Tap the three dots, tap Privacy settings and select Only me**

If you're about to post a video you can choose who can watch it: **Only me, Friends or Everyone** and you can choose whether comments are allowed.

How to stay safe on TikTok



Choosing to **make your account private** allows you to approve or deny followers and restrict your uploaded content to followers only. To make your account private:

- Tap on the profile tab
- Go to the **three-dot** menu in the top-right corner
- Tap on **Privacy**
- Then toggle **Private account**

You can keep your identity secure by not including any personal information, such as name, address, phone number or age in your profile.



Users can also manage their experience through the **Digital Wellbeing** tool in their settings, using 'Screen Time Management' and 'Restricted Mode', to limit the type and amount of content viewable.

How do I report a problem?



If you feel someone is harassing you or otherwise being inappropriate you can report them or a specific video to TikTok's dedicated moderation team in the app. You can also report via the web form - [tiktok.com/legal/report/feedback](https://www.tiktok.com/legal/report/feedback)

To report a specific user:

- Access the user's profile
- Tap on the **three-dot** menu in the top-right corner
- An option saying **report** will come up
- Follow the on-screen instructions

To report a specific video:

- **Hold** your finger on the video
- Tap **report** and follow the on-screen instructions

TikTok also works with the **Professional Online Safety Helpline (0344 381 4772 or helpline@saferinternet.org.uk)** if you're a professional working with children and you come across content that you do not think should be on TikTok, you can call or email POSH. The team will then report the content directly to TikTok's Trust and Safety to take action.

Supporting community and wellbeing



TikTok does not allow content that promotes, glorifies, or normalises harmful content, however it does support people who choose to share their personal experiences to raise awareness, help others who might be struggling and looking for support among the community.

To help users do this safely, TikTok provides well-being guides ([tiktok.com/safety/en-gb/well-being-guide](https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en-gb/well-being-guide)) to support people who choose to share their personal experiences on the platform, developed with the guidance of independent experts.

Redirecting Users - when someone searches for words or phrases relating to sensitive issues they are directed to local support resources such as Samaritans or BEAT helpline.

Warning Users - when a user searches content that some may find distressing, for example 'scary make-up', the results page will be covered, requiring individuals to opt-in to see content.

What about parental controls?



The **Family Pairing** feature allows parents to customise their teen's safety settings based on their individual needs. It allows a parent to link their TikTok account to their teen's and set controls including:

- **Screen Time Management:** Control how long your teen can spend on TikTok each day.
- **Restricted Mode:** Limit the appearance of content that may not be appropriate for them.
- **Direct Messages:** Restrict who can send messages to the connected account, or turn off direct messaging completely.
- **Search:** Decide whether teens are able to proactively search for content

Parents or caregivers that enable Family Pairing receive advice for parents, which are also available on the Guardian's Guide section of TikTok's Safety Centre - [tiktok.com/safety](https://www.tiktok.com/safety)

Blocking users on TikTok



You can also block a user so they won't be able to view your videos or interact with you through direct messages, comments, follows, or likes.

- Go to the profile of the account you want to report
- Tap the **settings** icon
- Tap **block** and follow the steps in the app

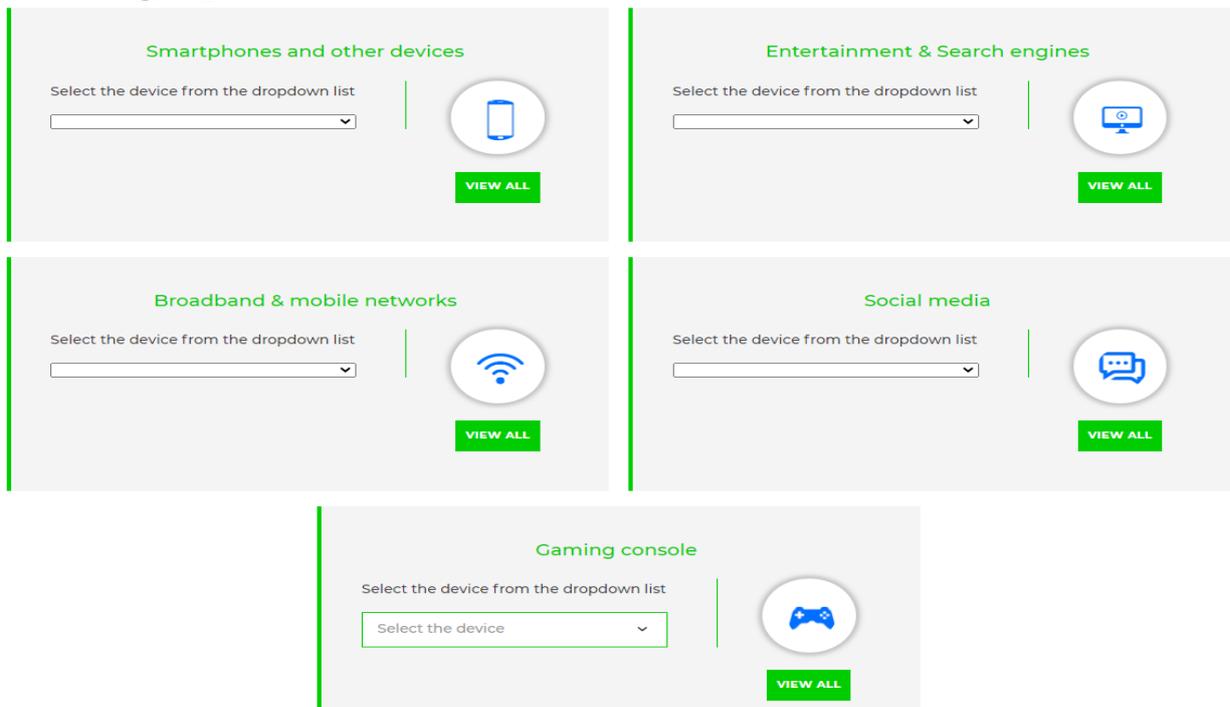
Users can also **bulk report**, delete or block up to 100 comments or accounts at once by long-pressing on a comment or tapping the pencil icon in the upper-left corner to open a window of further options.



Control your comment section

You have the power to decide whether you want to allow comments on videos from everyone, followers only, or restrict them altogether. Using profile settings, you can filter all comments to prevent certain keywords, or pre-approve any comment that appears on your video.

Setting up Parental Controls for:



<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

BBC Own It app

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/bbc-own-it-app-and-keyboard-guide/#keyboard>

Google Family Link

<https://support.google.com/families/answer/7101025?hl=en>

[Google Family Link - parent's set up guide | Internet Matters](#)

Windows Family

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/account-billing/getting-started-with-microsoft-family-safety-b6280c9d-38d7-82ff-0e4f-a6cb7e659344>

Apple Family

Set up family sharing <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201088>

Screen Time <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT208982>

In-app purchasing controls

Turn off in-app purchases if you can:

iPhone - Settings. Tap Screen Time > Content & Privacy Restrictions. Then, turn the Content & Privacy Restrictions on. Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases > In-app Purchases > Don't Allow

There's no way to disable in-app purchases on an Android device altogether, but you can set the device to require authentication before a purchase is made:

- Google Play app and Tap Menu > Settings. Tap Require authentication for purchases. This allows you to choose from three options: either
- For all purchases through Google Play on this device
- Every 30 minutes
- Never