

## Autumn Term 2023

As we approach half term and darker nights some of the children at Devonshire may spend a little longer online playing games and watching various forms of media. Although the internet is a great source of learning, it does also pose risks. It is important we all do our bit to keep children safe online.

### Setting Parental Controls

The UK Safer Internet Centre has published a guide for parents on using parental controls to keep your child safe. Parental controls are designed to help protect children from inappropriate content online, age restricted apps and 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.

Childnet has also published information and key advice on parental controls for parents and carers.

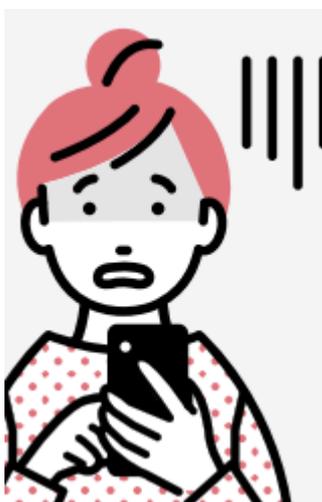
Free practical guides from Internet Matters will show you how to set up parental controls on various platforms and provide help with many filtering options, including how to set time and age limits, block certain content, lock settings with a pin and activate restricted modes where available.

#### Useful Websites

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/parental-controls>

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/parental-controls/>

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



### Top Tips

1. Learn your way round - Most devices have controls to ensure children can't access content you don't want them to. (Set parental controls)
2. Tablets are popular with younger children. When downloading games and apps ensure you have checked them out first and they are age appropriate.
3. Older children may have access to a mobile phone. Talk to children about what they should and shouldn't be doing.
4. Set boundaries - Ensure children understand your expectations and what behaviour is acceptable. Agree time limits or number of games before usage.
5. Monitor what devices are being used in the home and talk regularly to your child about how to keep safe online.
6. Only allow your child to access age appropriate apps, games, online platforms.



### Look out for...

When children return to school after half term we will be holding parent workshops on keeping your child safe online. We look forward to seeing you all at these workshops. Further information to follow.

