



## Bourne Elsea Park C of E Primary Academy

### E-Safety Newsletter December 2020



Welcome to our December newsletter all about E-Safety! This year has been different for all of us and we know that the time children spend on devices is ever increasing. The children have been working extremely hard at school (or at home completing online learning!) and will have a well deserved break over the Christmas holidays. This Christmas some children may be lucky enough to receive a mobile phone, games console or other device that has the potential to connect to the internet. We know you will join us in wanting to keep them safe. Below is some information and guidance to help keep your child protected this Christmas. Download the 'QR reader' app to access the QR codes.

#### What is the real cost of online gaming?

Scan the QR code to read an interesting blog from the UK Safer Internet Centre about issues that can arise from online games and apps that ask for real money. It also discusses in-game currency, rewards and increased play time.



#### Top tips for staying safe online at Christmas

The UK Safer Internet Centre have set out some top tips to help your household safe online over the holidays. Scan the QR code below for tips about:

- Tablets
- Mobile devices
- Setting boundaries
- Having a 'whole home' approach
- Gaming



#### Do you know about 'Family Pairing' on TikTok?

Whilst TikTok has an age limit of 13, we know that some children have TikTok accounts. They have recently introduced 'Family Pairing' which enables parents/carers to have greater oversight and a robust set of tools to ensure TikTok is safer for their child. These changes include setting screen time, turning off comments and discoverability changes and turning off direct messaging. We do however recommend that children under 13 do not have TikTok accounts.



Many parents/carers are unsure about how to set up parental controls. Scan the QR code for step by step guides for the following devices:

- Smart phones and other devices — Amazon Echo guide, Apple's Family Sharing, BBC Own It App, Kids Safe Mode on Sky Q and Windows guides.
- Entertainment and search engines - Google, YouTube, ITV, Sky Go, BBC iPlayer, Netflix, Twitch, Zoom etc.
- Broadband and Mobile networks - BT, O2, PlusNet, Sky Broadband, Virgin Mobile, Talk Talk, EE, iD mobile, Three etc.
- Social Media - Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, Houseparty, WhatsApp etc.
- Gaming console — Fortnite and Fortnite: Chapter 2 parent controls guide, Minecraft guide and Nintendo 3DS guides.



Whilst parental controls and privacy settings are useful tools, they are not 100% effective. Skills such as **critical thinking** and **resilience** are crucial so children know what to do if they encounter risk. There are also some tips about 'talking digital with kids' too.

National Online Safety have released a Christmas story for young children to learn about online safety in an age appropriate and engaging way. You could share this as part of a bedtime story. Scan the QR code to find the story 'Oscar and the Three Elves'.

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## Stay safe this Christmas!

