



For Parents

Welcome to the Parents and Carers section of the Scomis Online Safety Essentials Service May 2018

- Do you know how children use social media?
- Do you know what apps they use?
- Do you know how to use privacy settings?

In the news:

The Health Secretary, Jeremy Hunt:

- tells Social Media firms to find a solution to age verification
- asks the Chief Medical Officer to examine links between underage internet use, depression and anxiety

(The Mail on Sunday, 22nd April 2018)



Read the practical guide '[Child Safety Online](#)' in full.

Advice includes:

- Ask children to show you which social media apps they use and why they like them
- Talk about how to use them
- Show them how to report offensive comments
- Obtain people's permission before sharing photos
- Encourage your child to talk to you if they see anything that upsets them



YouTube announce new parental controls for their [YouTube Kids app](#).

- Do you use Facebook?
- Do you know which third party apps connect to your Facebook account?

Childnet recommends that **you** regularly check apps that are linked to your Facebook account and that **children are encouraged to do the same.**

Read Childnet's practical steps [here](#):

Is your child playing Fortnite?

Released in 2017, Fortnite is becoming very popular. There are 2 different versions of the game:

- Fortnite: Save the World
- Fortnite: Battle Royale

Recommended age 13+

'Played on PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Windows, and Mac. Mobile version available. The game has a cartoonish style, and the violence, while persistent, isn't bloody or particularly gory. Its online nature could expose younger players to offensive language from random strangers in voice or on-screen text chat.'

Read Commonsense Media's [full review](#):

Have you heard that WhatsApp raises the minimum recommended age of users to 16?



Facebook-owned messaging service will demand users confirm they are old enough to use app after raising age limit from 13

(The Guardian Wednesday 25th April 2018)

[Read article:](#)



Stop Press!

Have you heard of Jott Messenger?

Recommended age 13+

Actual age isn't verified, and user content isn't monitored. Once an account is created, the app asks permission to look at your contacts.

Read Commonsense Media's [review](#):

Try the Australian Office of the eSafety Commissioner's [Screen Smart Parent Tour](#)

The 10 minute interactive tour is aimed at parents of pre-teens and young teens (10 to 14yrs).

For more information contact Scomis

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