



6 easy steps to help keep your children safe online

Controls aren't a single solution to staying safe online. Talking to your children and encouraging responsible behaviour is critical. However, controls are a vital first step to helping to protect your child online.

- **Set up home broadband parental controls**
 - These allow you to control what content is seen on any device connected to your broadband router, or hub.
- **Set controls on your search engine**
 - Encourage your child to use child-friendly search engines and activate and lock safe search settings.
- **Make sure every device is protected**
 - Controls should be installed on every device your child uses – mobile phones, tablets and games consoles.
- **Privacy settings**
 - Activate safety measures offered by different sites. Sites like Facebook have settings that help prevent your child seeing unsuitable advertising.
- **Block pop-ups**
 - If you're worried about your children accessing inappropriate content through clicking on pop-ups, BBC Webwise has advice on how to stop these.
- **Keep talking**
 - Parental Controls are a really useful part of your toolkit to keep your children safer online, and can be adjusted as your child grows, but it's vitally important to remember to talk regularly to your children about what they are doing online.
 - You can find more tips on how to start these conversations at internetmatters.org.