



Weekly Bulletin – 14TH Dec 2023

School Year Term Dates 2023 - 2024

TERM 1	1 st September 2023- 20 th October 2023
TERM 2	30 th October 2023 – 15 th December 2023
TERM 3	3 rd January 2024 – 9 th February 2024 INSET DAY 2nd January 2024
TERM 4	19 th February 2024 – 28 th March 2024
TERM 5	15 th April 2024 – 23 rd May 2024 INSET DAY 24th May 2024
TERM 6	3 rd June 2024 – 23 rd July 2024

School Events

15.12.2023	Carol Service at 2:45pm – parents and carers welcome
02.01.2024	INSET DAY – School Closed for Pupils
03.01.2024	Term 3 Starts
12.01.2024	Mid Year Reports
06.02.2024	Parents Evening – Late Session
07.02.2024	PTA sponsored in school farm visit
08.02.2024	Parents Evening
12.02.2024	Visiting Speaker – Nick Alford
w/c 26.02.2024	Book Fair – All Week
06.03.2024	Year 4 - Brockhill Country Park Trip
19.04.2024	Year 1 – Kent Life Trip
24.04.2024	Year R - Wingham Wildlife Trip
17.04.2024	Class Photos
29.04.2024	Year R Vision and Hearing Checks
20.05.2024	Year 3 – Lullingstone Roman Villa Trip
28.06.2024	Sports Day
10.07.2024-12.07.2024	Year 6 – Residential Trip



If you wish to book your child into Breakfast club for next term, please email the school office with your requirements before the start of Term 3

We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



Admission to

Primary school in Kent 2024

Apply online at

[kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Opens Friday 3 November 2023 and closes at
midnight on Monday 15 January 2024

For children born between
1 September 2019

and 31 August 2020,

Transferring to Primary school
in September 2024

What to do

Choose a school

It's important to find out more about the schools you are interested in before you decide to name them on the application form.

Read the guide to Primary admissions at www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

You can name up to three Primary schools, inside or outside of Kent, but you must name them all on the same application.

Apply for a school place

A simple, fast, convenient process which opens **Friday 3 November 2023** and closes at midnight on **Monday 15 January 2024**.

You will first need to set up an online account. The applicant is you, the parent/carer; you will then need to add your child's details before starting an application. You will receive a confirmation email that your application has been correctly submitted.

You can log back in at any time to view the information submitted.

Receiving your offer

On offer day (**Tuesday 16 April 2024**) an email will be sent after **4pm** informing you of your offer.

You must accept or decline the school place you have been offered by **Tuesday 30 April 2024**. A link to a guide with information you will need to provide the school with will be in your offer email.

If it has not been possible to offer your child a place in your preferred school, you have the right to appeal. You can also add their name to the school's waiting list.

Moving house during the application window will likely complicate your application and we therefore advise you to pay special attention to key dates in the admissions process. KCC has no discretionary authority to vary the process for parents who cannot complete address moves in time to make use of them for admissions purposes. If you have queries relating to this, please email the team on one of the email addresses below.

Key dates

Friday 3 November 2023	Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions to register and apply.
Monday 15 January 2024	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Tuesday 16 April 2024	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
Tuesday 30 April 2024	Parents should contact the school to accept/refuse the place that has been offered and can use the link in the offer email to ask for their child to be added to the waiting list of schools named on the original application.
Tuesday 14 May 2024	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals . You can only appeal for schools that were named on the application form.

Need help?

Email primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk or kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk

Full information booklet can also be viewed online at [kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Only one application per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete any other form of application. Keep your login details safe and use your registered email address for all communication with the team.

The confirmation email may go to your junk/spam folder of your email – please check here before contacting our team for confirmation.



We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



It's Christmas Time – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

It's Christmas Time!



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipssed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Skips

www.skipssafetynet.org

Developed in partnership with



We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of the ways in which we believe trusted adults should be involved. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS iPhone

Apple devices come with built-in apps already available: Mail, FaceTime and Safari, for example. However, you can choose which apps and features appear on your child's device and which ones don't. You can also manipulate the features in Game Centre to enhance your child's safety and privacy when playing games, as well as blocking iTunes or App Store purchases if you wish.



How to Restrict Built-in Apps/Features

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Allowed Apps (you may need to toggle this to 'on' at the top)
- 5 Enable or disable the apps you wish to appear (or disappear) on your child's device

How to Restrict Game Centre

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions (you may need to switch the toggle at the top to the 'on' position)
- 5 Scroll down to Game Centre
- 6 Choose between Allow, Don't Allow, or Allow with Friends Only in the settings for each feature

How to Restrict iTunes & App Store Purchases

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases
- 5 Select Allow or Don't Allow for each feature (you can also lock these settings with a password)

NOS National Online Safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release 22.09.2022

We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of a range of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS Android Phone

On Android phones, restricting access to particular apps usually requires going onto Google Play. From there, it's fairly easy to navigate your way through the settings to manage the parental controls and authentications relating to any apps on the device. These features can prevent your child from downloading or buying anything unsuitable for their age. Updated versions of apps or games that your child has already installed may occasionally contain something inappropriate, so we've explained how to stop those, too.



How to Block App Downloads (This Also Disables In-app Purchases):

- 1 Open Google Play Store
- 2 Tap the profile icon in the top right
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Scroll down to the Family section and tap Parental controls
- 5 Toggle 'Parental controls are off' to 'Parental controls are on'
- 6 Create a PIN and tap OK
- 7 Confirm your PIN and tap OK again
- 8 Tap Apps & Games
- 9 Set the age limit you wish to set
- 10 Tap Save to apply your changes

How to Stop Auto-updates

- 1 Open Google Play Store
- 2 Tap the profile icon in the top right
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Tap Auto-Update Apps
- 5 Select 'Don't auto-update apps' and then tap Done

Restricting Apps Through Google Family Link

- 1 Open Google Play Family Link for parents
- 2 Tap the three horizontal lines in the top left
- 3 Select your child's account
- 4 Tap Manage
- 5 Tap Controls on Google Play
- 6 Tap Apps & Games
- 7 Select the age limit you wish to set



www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered in to. Current as of the date of release: 22.09.2023

We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What parents & carers need to know about ...

PLAYSTATION 5

The PlayStation 5 is the next-generation video game console from Sony. It offers improved graphics, sound and much quicker loading times. It also has a new controller with motion- and force-feedback features for a more immersive experience. Parents should note that there are two different versions available that support discs or digital downloads.

Safely setting up your Playstation 5

PlayStation 5 Blu-ray

PlayStation 5 Blu-ray is the larger of the two consoles, although not by a lot. It enables you to play games on disc or by digital download. Although all new games are available digitally, the disc drive is still useful to watch movies from discs as well as play most existing PlayStation 4 games you own. It also enables you to purchase second-hand games on a disc, which is often much cheaper.

Family Settings

Both PlayStation 5 models offer important family controls that should be set up before your family starts using the system. Although this can take a little time, it ensures that children have their own accounts and sets limits on spending, interactions and age ratings. If done correctly, children cannot circumvent these controls that require the parent's password to alter.

Setting Limits on Play Time

You can specify how long, and at which times of day, the console can be used to play without needing a password. Talk to your children and agree how long is appropriate, then set this on their profile, so it's something they understand and accept. You can set different time limits on each of the users on the system.

Managing Spending

You can set a limit on spending via Parental Controls. This means that any additional purchase requires your password. Another alternative is not to put credit card details into your account and instead add credit as they need it using the book token-like cards in-store or online. A nice feature on the PlayStation is setting an amount of pocket money to spend on games each month.

Setting Age Ratings

You can set a limit that stops any older-rated games being played without a password being entered. This is not only a good way to ensure children are playing appropriate content but is a good chance to talk about the games they are playing.

PlayStation 5 Digital

PlayStation 5 Digital is slightly smaller as it doesn't contain a Blu-ray drive. This means the console is cheaper but can only run games you download via an internet connection. Unlike the Xbox Series X and the cheaper Series S, the digital-only PlayStation 5 is just as powerful as its more expensive disc-and-download counterpart.

Downloading the PlayStation App

The PlayStation 5 uses the same PlayStation app as the PlayStation 4. This is a super-easy way to tweak the user settings for your family without having to log on to the console. It's also a good way to keep track of what different people are enjoying on the system. The app can also be used as an easier way to log-on by scanning the QR code.

Creating Guest Account Password

An important step during the PlayStation 5 set-up is specifying the default settings for guest accounts as well as a passcode for your own account. This ensures that all users need to access the system with their own account and related limits and settings.

Managing Online Interactions

Another important area of the Parental Controls is specifying how and who your child can interact with online. Modern consoles enable players to share text, voice, images and video with each other. You can set whether they can do this, and also apply a password before they can add new friends.

Game Subscriptions

In addition to buying individual games digitally or in-store, you can also subscribe to services that offer access to hundreds of games for a monthly fee. PlayStation Plus is needed to play games online with other people and offers a set of games you can immediately download for the new system. PlayStation Now enables you to stream (and download) a wider set of games.

Types of Accounts

Set up Parent Accounts

Setting up a parents' account is important so you can manage the console for your family. After plugging your console in, connect to the internet and wait for updates to finish. Once updated, create a parent user account with an email address you regularly check and password specified.

Set up Child Accounts

Setting up child accounts are important to be able to limit play time, spending and apply age ratings automatically. Separate accounts for each child user can be set up. It's a good idea to specify a password for the guest account so children cannot access this also.

Meet our expert

Andy Robertson is a freelance family technology expert who often works for the BBC. He runs the Family Gamer TV YouTube channel and contributes to a range of national media on the topic of video games and family.



NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 29.11.2020

We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



There's a good chance you already know what the PlayStation 4 (PS4) is. Sony's video game console is often touted as being one of the best-selling of all time, with over 100 million units shifted worldwide. With over seven years of polishing and fine-tuning under its belt, you'd expect the console to be one of the safest around. While this is overwhelmingly true, there are still things parents should be on the lookout for whether they're children are starting it up for the first time or they're already experienced users.



What parents need to know about PLAYSTATION 4



SAFETY CONCERNS

Playstation users are able to add each other as friends by simply inputting another player's username and sending them a friend request. If accepted, they can chat openly from the console's dashboard, including voice chatting in a private party. If players know each other, this can be a great way to talk privately while in games, without having to interact directly with others. But, similarly, if a stranger adds a child and is accepted as a friend, they have direct access to them.



ACCESS TO PERSONAL INFORMATION

The PlayStation Network (or PSN) is essentially used to house all the other PlayStation services (like PlayStation Play and PlayStation Store) under one roof. Accounts are free and come in two forms: master accounts and sub accounts, with master accounts having access to the parental controls on a console. If a user's ID and account password were compromised (if a child was tricked into revealing it or if a hacker obtained the details otherwise) then it could provide access to personal information or banking details.



ONLINE BULLYING

Sometimes in an online game, players will be able to freely chat with each other. While these interactions will mostly be positive and about having fun in a game, some people will take this opportunity to use offensive or abusive language or may just want to aggravate other players. In some cases, it may amount to harassment, trolling or cases of online bullying.



ADULT CONTENT IN GAMES

The PlayStation offers a huge variety of different games, all with different age ratings. From shocking games to driving, sports, educational titles and everything in between, they all need special attention when considering a purchase, as some can contain adult content or explicit language with isn't always suitable for young children. The best way to know what a game involves is to check out its PEGI rating which will be on the game box or on the website page before you buy. Remember that these ratings serve as a guide, and the ultimate choice lies with parents to know what is acceptable and appropriate for their children.



SCREEN ADDICTION

The PS4 can provide hours of entertainment. As well as being an avenue to play games, it provides the ability to browse the internet, watch live TV or stream video services such as Netflix, Amazon or YouTube. Such is the variety that it can be easy to switch between modes and rack up time in front of the screen. Some children may also find it difficult to control the amount of time they play games, potentially leading to gaming disorder.



Safety Tips for Parents & Carers



CREATE CHILD FAMILY MEMBER ACCOUNTS

The PS4 allows parents to set up different accounts for different family members, including children. This will allow you to control different aspects of your child's PS4 experience including the ability to set age restrictions on gameplay, limit play time sessions, disabling chat messaging and the ability to access the internet.

DISCUSS PSN RISKS WITH YOUR CHILD

It's always a good idea to discuss with your child how to stay safe on the PlayStation Network and how to respond if people they don't know contact them. Advise your child to report anybody who upsets them or makes them feel uncomfortable and to never share personal or private details or images with anyone online. You can also block other users if they are abusive or your child feels threatened by their behaviour.



SET MONTHLY SPENDING LIMITS

It's a good idea to set a limit on how much can be spent on things like new games, or for skins or card packs in games like Fortnite and FIFA. This can be done using your master family account and then selecting your child's account. Go to Applications, Devices/Network Features from where you should be able to select Monthly Spending Limit and adjust it as you see fit.



IMPLEMENT PRIVACY CONTROLS

Sometimes it's easier to block potential risks at the source when playing online. Through Network Features, you can select whether a child's sub account can communicate with others while on the PSN or whether they can view content created by other players. This means disabling the ability for your child to communicate via chat or messages or displaying and entering comments for friend requests and game invitations. It also means you can block videos, images and text created by other users from view.



SET AGE RATING LEVELS FOR GAMES, DVDs AND BLU-RAYS

As well as controlling what age rating level of a game your child can play, you can also set appropriate controls for DVDs and Blu-Rays. To set this up, simply go through the Family Management setting and then Applications/Devices/Network Features and select the type of content you would like to restrict.



LIMIT PLAY TIME

Play time can also be managed through the PlayStation's parental controls. On the family manager accounts, go to Settings, Parental Controls, Family Management and select the child account you'd like to limit play time for. From here, set a Time Zone, then configure the Play Time Settings to preference.



KEEP ACCOUNTS SECURE

To stop children from changing parental controls and adjusting their own limits and restrictions, you can create a system restriction passcode to disable guest login and set up a log-in passcode so that only you can access your account. To protect against hackers, you can activate 2-step verification (2SV) which will alert you of any new logins. You can also set up a password at checkout in the PlayStation Store so that there is an additional layer of security if anybody attempts to make any unauthorised purchases.



Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GOMINGGlobe. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



SOURCE: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/help/ps4-library/psn-account/parental-controls/ps4-parental-controls/> | <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/help/ps4-library/psn-account/parental-controls/titles-as-ids/> | <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/help/ps4-library/psn-account/parental-controls/titles-as-ids/>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 13.05.2020

We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.org for further guidance, hints and tips for adults.

What parents & carers need to know about...



XBOX ONE



The Xbox One is among the most popular video game consoles on the planet. Released in 2013, there are a multitude of Xbox One variants on the market, including the One, One X and One S, with the next full console, the Xbox Series X, coming towards the end of 2020. With units sold exceeding 50 million, there's a whole network of gamers already enjoying online experiences together through the console's Xbox Live service. That's why it's important that parents and carers understand exactly what the Xbox One is all about.

Playing with Strangers

Xbox Live is the online service for the Xbox One, and it's where the majority of online games are played. Part of the fun of gaming is playing with people from all different walks of life, and while most players will only be looking to have fun and make some new friends along the way, it also means that children can be playing and potentially communicating with people online they don't know and have never met.



Online Bullying

Xbox includes multiplayer games and the ability to interact and chat with other players. This includes being able to private message one another. Xbox has community standards that players should abide by, however these aren't always followed and it's possible, like any online social media interaction, that players can send harmful or hateful messages to your child or even display online bullying behaviour.



Inappropriate Content

Like many gaming platforms, one of the biggest attractions to Xbox One is the ability to play games online. Children can access these through the Games Pass service. However, this can also open up channels for younger children to potentially play online games with older children or young adults who may use swear words or inappropriate language. Furthermore, if there are no age restrictions in place, children can access games that contain adult themes such as graphic depictions of war, violence or even sexually suggestive material.



Purchasing Add-Ons

The Xbox Games Pass gives players access to over 100 high quality games which can be played on the console, PC and, so on, other Android devices depending on what type of pass is bought. Players can also receive discounts on in-game purchases and add-ons which can quickly add up, particularly if your child is operating under an adult account and has a card registered with no spending limits in place.



Screen Addiction

The Xbox is not just a games console; it's a family entertainment system. Children can play games online, stream their favourite films and TV shows, listen to music, watch YouTube, chat on Skype and browse the web. All of this makes it very easy for children to rack up the hours in front of the screen and find it difficult to switch it off which could lead to tiredness, fatigue and an inability or reluctance to engage in other activities.



Phishing Risk

Phishing is the act of posing as somebody else (possibly an authority figure like an Xbox or Microsoft employee) in order to obtain things like passwords for accounts. Unfortunately, there are many people out there who look to those who are vulnerable and aim to exploit them. They could disguise their intentions by asking seemingly innocent questions, with an ulterior motive of gaining details that will give them access to personal accounts or banking details.



Safety Tips

Set up a Microsoft Family Account

Setting up a family account is a great way to personalise your child's online experience based on age-appropriate limits that you set for privacy, online purchases, content filters and screen time. It provides you with the ability to manage parental settings and ensures that only you can change Xbox privacy and online settings for a child account.



Check Age-Ratings

Make sure you're aware of the games that your child is playing and what the PEGI ratings for them are. The ratings are there to guide parents in knowing what's contained within the games, but it's up to the m to make the decision of whether or not they're suitable to play. If you want a complete overview, use the family account settings to block inappropriate content and make sure your kids only view content and play games that are right for their age.



Discuss Screen Time

Taking regular breaks from gaming is vitally important for children as much as anybody so it's important to encourage children to take time away from their screen and to do other things. If you're really concerned about their device usage, you can implement screen time limits from your family account to help encourage a healthy balance. This can be done on specific apps and games and can be implemented for individual devices or every device they own.



Create Spending Limits

Having a pre-set limit of how much a child can spend is a great way to set boundaries on purchases with your bank accounts, while giving them the freedom to spend some money on their favourite games. On top of that, it's a great way to encourage financial responsibility at an early age. If you'd prefer, you can also have child accounts request approval to buy things through you each time they want to make a purchase.



Report Bullying Behaviour

Teach your child how to report inappropriate behaviour that they experience online. If it's a particular player, they can search for them from the People tab and then select report or block. Make sure they know when to tell a trusted adult if somebody has said or done something upsetting online. It's also worth remembering that kids don't have to game online; there are a lot of games that can be played off-line either alone, or with family members in the house.



Keep Profiles Private

Use the Xbox controls and settings to ensure your child's profile is kept private online. Manage what others can see about your child's personal details and limit who your child can communicate with and who can in turn with their content or send the friend requests. This will help to reduce the number of strangers contacting the m and will keep you in the loop as to who they are engaging with online.



Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 15 years as a writer, editor and producer. He is the current gaming editor at two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, IGN and GameSpot. Starting gaming from a young age with his father, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



Sources: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/community/for-everyone/responsible-gaming>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 28.08.2020

We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



What parents & carers need to know about... XBOX SERIES X|S

The Xbox Series X and Series S are the next-generation video game consoles from Microsoft. They offer improved graphics, sounds and much quicker loading times. Parents should note that the two versions available are quite different.



Safely Setting up Your Xbox Series X / S

Xbox Series X

Xbox Series X is a larger device, with a disc drive, twice as much storage and higher performance chips. It can play the new Xbox games at the highest resolution and with the best visuals. It enables you to run games from disc or digitally.



Apply Family Settings

Both Xbox models offer important family controls that should be set-up before your family starts using the system. Although this can take a little time, it ensures that children have their own accounts and sets limits on spending, interactions and age ratings. If done correctly, children cannot circumvent these controls that require the parent's password to alter.

Managing Spending

You can set a limit on spending via the family settings. This means that any additional purchase requires your password. An alternative is not to put credit card details in to your account and instead add credit as they need it using the bank-look-like cards in-store or online.

Setting Limits on Play-Time

You can specify the time of day and how long the console can be used to play without needing a password. Talk to your children and agree how long is appropriate, then set this together as it's something they understand and accept. On the Xbox Series X|S you can also limit time on a particular game, which is a good way to encourage children to play a wide range of experiences.

Game Subscriptions

In addition to buying individual games digitally or in-store, you can also subscribe to services that offer access to 100's of games for a monthly fee. Xbox Game Pass is often bundled with the Xbox Gold subscription you need to play online. Most of the bigger Xbox games are provided as part of the service, as well as a wide range of independent games that often offer educational and wellbeing based experiences.

Xbox Series S

Xbox Series S is a smaller, disc-less version of the console which plays all the new games but with reduced visuals or possibly frame-rates. Because it doesn't support discs you can't play old games from discs and must purchase new games digitally. It also has smaller storage, offering 500GB which is about half that of the Xbox Series X.



Setting Age-Ratings

You can set a limit that stops any older rated games being played without a password being entered. This is not a good way to ensure children are playing appropriate content but is a good chance to talk about the games they are playing.



Managing Online Interactions

Another important area of the Family Settings is specifying how and who your child can interact with online. Modern consoles enable players to share text, voice, images and video with each other. You can set whether they can do this, and also apply a password before they can add new friends.



Creating Guest Account Password

An important step on the Xbox Series X|S set-up is specifying a password for your own account and a password to access the Guest account. This ensures that all users need to access the system with their own account and related limits and settings.



Types of Accounts

Set-Up Parent Accounts

Setting up a parent's account is important so you can manage the console for your family. After downloading the Xbox app to aid set-up, connect to the internet and while the console updates, use the app to start specifying settings. Once updated, create a parent user account with an email address you regularly check and a password specified.



Set-Up Child Accounts

Setting up child accounts are important to be able to limit play-time, spending and apply age ratings automatically. Separate accounts for each child user can be set-up. It's a good idea to specify a password for the guest account so children cannot access this also. You can also download the Xbox Family Settings app to help you adjust these settings in the future without having to access the console directly.

Meet our expert

Free lance family technology expert for the BBC, Andy runs the family Gamer TV YouTube channel and contributes to a range of national media on the topic of video-games and family.



www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.11.2020

We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



The Switch is a hybrid console released by popular video game company Nintendo in 2017. It's classed as a hybrid because it's designed to be played both at home on a television, like traditional consoles (think a PlayStation or an Xbox) or out and about like a portable console, such as a GameBoy. It uses two detachable and wireless 'Joy-Con' controllers on either side of the console's screen, which can be used by one or two players. The Switch can be played on the internet with the purchase of Nintendo Switch Online, in the living room together or on the go during long journeys, but bear in mind it needs to be charged just like anything else!



NINTENDO SWITCH ONLINE

Nintendo Switch Online is a paid service that allows the console to be played (you guessed it!) online, by linking to other Switch consoles around the world. It can be purchased through the Nintendo eShop from a single account on the device, or with a family membership plan which covers 2 accounts. The purchase options come in three sizes: 1 month, 3 months and 12 months but be aware these auto-renew unless you specify otherwise.



ONLINE DANGERS

While online, your children will be able to play with and chat to people on compatible games, which will mostly be good-natured fun, but could potentially expose them to vulgar language, indecent images or worse. There are options to limit this though, which are detailed below. It's worth remembering that many games can be played offline, so while it's not essential to get Nintendo Switch Online, it is certainly something to consider.



NINTENDO eSHOP

The Nintendo eShop is where games can be purchased over the internet and downloaded directly onto the device. If you choose to enter your bank details (or PayPal account) onto the Switch, you can save them for easy access later on. Do note however that these can be viewed by anybody with access to the console, unless you specify otherwise. A child might accidentally purchase a game or item from the shop if these details are left improperly protected, which could leave you with a nasty surprise.



NINTENDO'S VIDEO GAME SELECTION

Nintendo as a company offers some of the most entertaining and safe video games on the market. Games featuring characters like Super Mario, Donkey Kong and Yoshi are always a safe bet for a child-friendly experience. It's always prudent to check each game before you buy it (especially if the game hasn't been made by Nintendo) but as a rule of thumb, anything official containing well-known names like these will be fine for your children, giving you peace of mind while they enjoy them.



PORTABLE GAMING

Being able to take the Switch anywhere is a huge bonus when travelling. What more is that almost every game can be played without the need to dock the console with a television. Battery life on the Switch varies depending on what's being used but typically it'll last around 3 to 4 hours before needing to be recharged. When the time comes, any USB-C charger will be able to do the job, but it's best and quickest to return it to the dock, which requires a special plug called...



Top Tips For Parents

PARENTAL CONTROLS

Nintendo does a lot of good work to ensure that the Switch is a safe place for children to play. One of the ways it does this is through the Parental Controls app. Once you've got the app on your mobile device, it's a simple process to set up your child's console, giving them a PIN code that you can use to make sure your child is having fun in a safe and structured environment controlled by you.



ONLINE RESTRICTIONS

Another handy feature in the app is the ability to restrict access to online play. This is an extremely helpful feature that restricts access to games that have free communication between players on the internet. This includes things like voice chat and text chat. If you're worried about your child's online safety, this is a simple way to restrict their access to online play.

PLAY WITH YOUR CHILD

One of the wonderful things about the Switch is that there are an abundance of great games you and your child can play together. This is a great way to spend time together and enjoy the Switch. Nintendo has a long history of making and supporting fun, family-friendly games. Mario Kart and Mario Party, both of which can be played with two or more players using the Joy-Con controllers.



NINTENDO ESHOP SETTINGS

In the Nintendo eShop you can set up a password to help stop your child or somebody else from accessing any sensitive information, such as bank account details. The options here include either a PIN code, when a card is used, or a password. Choosing which one you prefer is up to you. If you're happy to have your child browse the shop for games they might want, you can allow access to the eShop but introduce the password before a purchase is made ensuring no mishaps occur.

LIMITING PLAY TIME

By linking the app with the Nintendo Switch, you can set time limits and reminders when you think enough time has been spent playing. This lets you see if a game is still being played and gives you the option to automatically put the console into sleep mode if the message is ignored. This should only be used as a last resort though as it could cause some friction between you and your child.

SET PLAY TIMES

Another handy feature is the ability to set play times for days of the week, allowing you to tailor play time around your child's schedule. This is a great way to ensure your child is getting the most out of their console and enjoying gaming as part of a healthy routine. It can also help you to talk to your child about when they can be online.

SEE PLAY HISTORY

The Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app can also send a report telling you how much time your child spends playing each game. This is a great way to spot when a game is overplayed and might be a good way for you to find out more about a title before talking to your child about it. It could also help limit any unreasonable time around play before they start.



Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMING24h. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly how to make them safe and fun.



<https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/switch/switch-parental-controls> | <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/switch/switch-parental-controls> | <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/switch/switch-parental-controls>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 31.07.2019

We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



HAMS PRODUCTIONS PROUDLY PRESENT

Snow White

THE PANTOMIME



FRIDAY 26TH JANUARY 2024. 7:30PM

SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY 2024. 2PM & 7:30PM

LENHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE, GROOM WAY. LENHAM, ME17 2QT

**Tickets will be available from the 1st of December 2023
by contacting the Box Office on tickets@hamsproductions.org
or by calling 07731 455 677.**

**Tickets can also be purchased on a Sunday evening between 6 & 7 pm
from the Lenham Community Centre**

**Tickets are priced at £6 for Adults and £4 for Children 2-16
Under 2 free if sitting on an adults lap.**



We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud



SOUNDSTEPS

Music School



FREE TASTER SESSIONS AVAILABLE AT Tonbridge and Malling and Maidstone

St Peters Church Centre
New Road, Ditton, ME20 6AE

Monday 15th and 22nd of January at 4.30pm

Wednesday 17th and 24th of January at 4.30pm and 5.30pm

Tonbridge Road Methodist Church
106 Tonbridge Rd, Maidstone ME16 8SL

Tuesday 16th and 23rd of January at 5.30pm and 6.30pm

Saturday 20th of January at 9.15am and 10am

Saturday 27th of January at 10.15am and 11 am

Online via Zoom Lessons available Monday to Saturday

**Please contact us to arrange a FREE TRIAL at your preferred location
or to enquire about any of our other locations in surrounding areas!**

office@soundstepsmusic.co.uk
07926371583



We are proud of a friendly environment that promotes the PRIDE values inspired by the Olympic legacy, where everyone takes pride and is proud of their achievements

Take PRIDE; Be Proud