

### Family sharing with Apple and Android

Apple and Android have made it possible to keep an eye on what your children are doing on their devices with a family sharing setting.

#### APPLE

You can set up an Apple ID for kids, set permissions remotely with Screen Time, and approve spending and downloads from a parent's device with Ask to Buy. You can also set up Apple Cash for a child or teenager, or set them up with an Apple Watch. Family Sharing makes it easy for up to six family members to share music, films, TV programmes, apps, books, subscriptions including iCloud+ and more, all without sharing an Apple ID. Find out more about what you can do with Family sharing at

<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201088>

#### ANDROID

Android has Google Play Family Library which allows you to share purchased apps, games, movies, TV shows, eBooks and audiobooks from Google Play with up to 5 family members. Within this setting you can supervise what your child is doing along with restricting apps and putting purchase approvals in place.

### Age restrictions on video games.

Video game age restrictions can help show what content is suitable for your child's age. You can also use them to set limits on what is available for your child to play. There are five age categories and eight content categories, set by the PEGI. These age restrictions act as a guideline for who should use the game, based on the content included. The age categories are '3', '7', '12', '16' and '18'. This number means that the content is suitable for that age and above. The age restriction doesn't tell you anything about how difficult the game is. For example, a game rated '7' might be too difficult for a 7 year old, but the content would be appropriate. Please be mindful of what your children are playing and the recommended age for their games. The age rating is put in place to consider the fact that a child's emotional and psychological development may not be ready to process what is happening in the games, such as the violence and swearing.

### Age restrictions on movies.

Please be mindful of the age restrictions on the films your children are watching. Age ratings are recommendations for parents and carers to help you decide what is appropriate for your child depending on what stage of development they are at.

## WINK

Wink is a new messaging app which allows children to connect and communicate with other users. In a similar style to Tinder, wink uses the swipe method for browsing profiles and accepting or declining them. Once two users have accepted each other by swiping on one another's profile, they can then communicate and play games online together.. The fact that wink allows children to share photos, personal information and their location with other users has caused significant concern.

13+

#### Advice for parents and carers

- ◆ Do your research
- ◆ Offer your support
- ◆ Be wary of what's being shared
- ◆ Discuss loss of ownership
- ◆ Balance screen time
- ◆ Be cautious of new contacts

Follow the link for more information and guidance on WINK. <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/hub/view/guide/wink>

