

## Online Games

Online games can be a great way for children and young people to keep busy and stay in touch with friends and family, but it's important that they play safely. Things to consider if your child games online:

- age ratings of games they play
- messaging and contact functions on the games
- in-game purchases
- trolling, griefing and scams
- how to report problems
- where they can get further support.

Also, if you have more than one child in your home, be aware that games suitable for one child to play or watch, may not be suitable for another.

### Deciding if a game is appropriate

There are four main things that you can consider to help you decide if a game's appropriate for your child to play:

- Check the content of the game and any chat function
- Consider who your child could have contact with whilst using the game
- Does the game affect your child's behaviour?
- Does the game have in-app purchasing?

For more support and advice about online games please click the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

# NSPCC



Does your child have a PlayStation? If so, have you set up appropriate parental controls? Some examples of the parental controls available are:

- Set age restrictions,
  - Set daily limits,
  - Control chat and messaging,
  - Set spend limits.

### How can I block/report other players?

If your child is playing with other players, then please ensure they know how to report/block other players and to tell a trusted adult if they do come across anything upsetting or that they are unsure of. This link details how to do this based on the device they have:

<https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/block-players-psn/>

You can find out more about the controls available here: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/parental-controls/>

## Online safety issues

internet matters. org

The internet is a fantastic place for children to learn, create and have fun. However, they may occasionally have to deal with a variety of sometimes challenging online safety issues and risks.

See advice on a range of online safety issues that your child may face to help them enjoy the digital world safely and smartly. For advice and support click:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/>

