



For Parents

Welcome to the November 2017 edition of the Scomis

Essentials Online Safety Newsletter.

Christmas 2017 is only a few weeks away!

- Have you seen the latest 'Must Haves' for Christmas 2017?
- Will you be buying your child a toy which requires access to an iPad or Android tablet?
- Will you be buying your child a smart phone?
- Will you be buying a games console?

The most famous retailers have published their lists for 2017. Must Haves, include:

Lego Boost – Requires access to an iPad or Android tablet. The Boost app has to be downloaded before you can start building and coding.

Find out more about Lego Boost:

<https://www.lego.com/en-gb/boost/support>

Smart phones – **Remember filters will be bypassed by connecting a phone to Wi-Fi.**

Points to consider:

- PAYG or Contract
- Which network
- Android or iPhone

For advice and guidance:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/tech-guide/mobile-phones/>

Xbox One X – **Remember it is possible to access the internet from games consoles.**

Advice is available at:

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv-radio-and-on-demand/advice-for-consumers/television/protecting-children/advice-guides-for-parents/parental-controls-for-games-consoles>

Read the NSPCC's advice on helping children play online games safely:

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

Discover more 'Must Haves' for Christmas 2017 at:

<http://musthavetoys.uk/amazon-top-toys-christmas/>

Stay up to date with social media apps and sites! Consider the following questions:

- Do you know if your child is using social media?
- Do you know what they are using?
- Have you considered the risks?

The risks include:

- Interaction with complete strangers
- Revealing too much information
- Cyberbullying

Childnet's advice and guidance for parents and carers is to:

Talk and listen to your kids. Keep the lines of communication open!

<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/social-networking>

To find out more about specific social media apps, sites, online games, video games visit Commonsensemedia and Netaware:

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>



Have you heard of **GroupMe**?

This app allows the user to share **unlimited content**.

Commonsensemedia's recommended age for using this app is **15+**

'Its main claim to fame may be its emojis and open search for images, some of the emojis feature more adult themes*

(www.commonsensemedia.org/)



*example of an emoji

Do you know the emoji language?

Find out what the emojis mean:

<https://emojipedia.org/>

STOP PRESS! Is your child using Musical.ly?

T&Cs = 13+



Read the NSPCC's review:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/musically/>

Remember: NSPCC's Online Safety helpline 0808 800 5002 and Childline (0800 1111)

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