

## Welcome to the October 2019 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

### Gambling

The NHS has opened its first clinic for young people addicted to gaming and gambling, a year after a Gambling Commission report found that 55,000 11-to-16-year-olds in the UK were problem gamblers. (BBC News 8/10/19)

**Concerned?  
Need to find out more?**

Visit BigDeal's website designed to help young people (and parents/carers) to:  
Increase [knowledge about gambling](#) – what it is, how it works and why people do it  
Watch BigDeal's videos [here](#)  
Hear real stories and take helpful quizzes in the [explore section](#)  
Learn about the [support](#) that is available and more:  
<https://www.bigdeal.org.uk/>

### Digital Resilience Toolkit for Parents

**Looking for advice and help on how to help children become more resilient online?**

Working with their 'Online expert ambassador' Dr Linda Papadopoulos, Internet Matters has created a number of age-specific resources. Help children to become more resilient and cope with whatever the online world throws at them.

Toolkits including easy to watch videos:

[Supporting 6 – 10 year olds](#)

[Supporting 11 - 13 year olds](#)

[Support 14+ year olds](#)

[Online Safety Age Guides](#)

[Interactive Guides](#)

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/digital-resilience-toolkit/>

**How safe are the sites, apps and games your child uses?**

Would you like to:

- Keep up to date with the latest sites, apps and games?
- Find out about anonymous messaging apps such as **Tellonym** and more?
- Find out how to keep your child safe when playing online games?
- Find out if **Harry Potter: Wizards Unite** is appropriate for your child?

Visit NSPCC's NetAware site:

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

Remember **FREE** advice is just a phone call away from the O<sub>2</sub> and NSPCC helpline 0808 800 5002

Or visit any O<sub>2</sub> Guru in an O<sub>2</sub> store

### Have you heard about Loot boxes?

The UK Safer Internet Centre has published an article providing key information about:



**UK Safer Internet Centre**  
[www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

- loot boxes
- what they mean for young people and their online safety
- how to encourage safe and responsible usage

Did you know:

Users can purchase loot boxes in games with real money?

Loot boxes are common in games such as:

**Fortnite**

**Apex Legends**

**Star Wars Battlefront II**

**FIFA Sports games**

Review the article '11 things you should know about loot boxes': <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/11-things-you-should-know-about-loot-boxes>

### Live Streaming

**Live streaming allows the user to broadcast real-time, live video to an audience over the internet.**

To live stream you need:

Smartphone, tablet or any internet enabled device

Platform to broadcast on, such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and more!

What are the risks:

Most platforms recommended age = 13+

Difficult to moderate

Possibility of sharing something private which might later regret

Can endanger privacy through exposure of personal information

Find out more about Live Streaming at

ParentZone: <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/live-streaming-everything-you-need-know-about-online-phenomenon>

**NETFLIX**

### Have you heard of TikTok?



**Recommended Age 13+**

TikTok is a social network for sharing user-generated videos, mostly of people lip-synching to popular songs.

It was originally called **musical.ly**

**Users** can sign up with a mobile phone number, email address, Instagram or Facebook account.

**Users** can change privacy settings but the account is public by default when opened.

**Warning!** If **privacy settings are not set anyone could send messages, see your child's videos and use their location information**

Read Common Sense Media's [full review of TikTok - Real Short Videos](#), and help your child use this app safely.