



HEARTS ACADEMY TRUST

Early Years Edition

Termly Computing Online Safety Newsletter

Online Safety Newsletter

Autumn 2023

Online Safety Tips for Pre-School Children

Thinking about the time of year, many children are likely to have new devices purchased for them for Christmas.

Here are some safety tips when setting up new devices:

1. Beware of screen time addiction

Think about limiting screen time for your child's device. This can be done in the settings or by using guided access on an apple device.

2. Limit screen time

Over using screens can affect concentration, sleep and attitude. Consider having no screens for a couple of hours before bed.

3. Think of others when taking photos

Check your child's device regularly to ensure they do not have inappropriate images.

4. Make sure you set up parental controls

This means you will feel confident that they can use their device safely and independently.

5. Always secure the device with a password

This will help keep all of the information stored on the device private

6. Ensure location services are disabled

This can usually be done from the device's privacy settings; or within the specific app



7. Always use a secure Wi-Fi network

When you use your Wi-Fi at home, this network is secure and password protected. If you choose to connect to a public network, these are less secure and can be accessed by anyone

8. Only pair with Bluetooth devices that are known to you

If connected via Bluetooth, information can be sent and received from another device.

Receiving attachments from unknown devices can leave your device open to receiving viruses



Being online

Some age appropriate apps for under 7's:



Meet the Numberblocks



Teach your Monster to read



CBeebies Storytime

Pinkfong Baby shark



TeachMonster: Reading for fun

Hungry Caterpillar Playschool



Get Creative from CBeebies

LEGO Life: Kidsafe community



Set the device up safely

Use the device setting so that only you can download age appropriate apps and games.



You should also consider setting up password controls or disable in-app purchasing so big bills are not run up!

Make sure location services are disabled so your child doesn't share their location accidentally.



There is some fantastic information online to guide you in having age appropriate conversations with your children

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

Other useful websites:

www.internetmatters.org

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://swgfl.org.uk/online-safety/what-is-online-safety/>

<https://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/>