



## St. Cuthbert's RC Primary School

# Online Safety Newsletter: January 2020

### New device?

#### Smart Phones

Did your child get a new smart phone for Christmas or are they using yours? Have you made sure that the correct parental controls have been set up to help protect your child whilst using the device?

Example controls include setting the device so only age appropriate apps can be downloaded and the ability to disable in-app purchasing (or don't store your payment card details) to avoid any hefty bills.

**iPhone advice:** <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>

**Android advice:** <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/android-smartphone/>

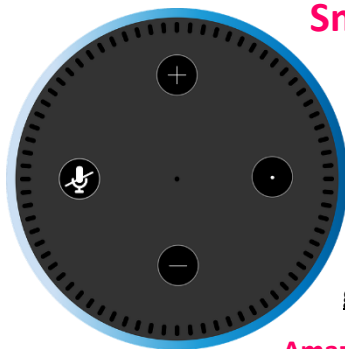


### Let's go online together!

Why not go online with your child and combine learning and fun! Oxford Owl have an area on their website full of activities for your child:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/welcome-back/for-home/reading-owl/kids-activities>

#### Smart speaker



Have you invested in a smart speaker for your home? "Hey, Google" or "Alexa, play some music" may be your key commands now but have you set up the correct parental controls? For example, when using a supervised account on a Google nest, children can't make purchases.

**Google Nest:** [https://support.google.com/googlenest/answer/9039704?hl=en-gb&ref\\_topic=7196250](https://support.google.com/googlenest/answer/9039704?hl=en-gb&ref_topic=7196250)

**Amazon Echo:** <https://www.common sense media.org/blog/how-to-set-parental-controls-on-the-amazon-echo>

### Is this fake news?

This is a handy guide designed to help you support your child in developing their critical thinking and digital literacy skills when spotting fake information online. Read the guide here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/tackling-fake-news-misinformation-advice-for-parents/>

### Start a conversation!

#### Question?

Who would you talk to if you saw something online that upset you?

**Want to  
learn  
more?**

## **Minecraft (PEGI Rating 7)**

Minecraft continues to remain popular with it being played by 112 million people every month. It is a great learning tool and is used in schools to teach skills such as planning, problem solving, simulation and 3D modelling. Minecraft is rated as PEGI 7, which means it is suitable for players above 7 years; however, the PEGI rating does not consider

the chat facility available within Minecraft. The chat facility can be switched off by following these steps:

- click 'options'
- select multiplayer settings
- click on chat choose shown, hidden or commands only.

**If you choose to keep the chat facility on then make sure your child knows what to do if anything upsetting happens.**

## **WhatsApp privacy settings**

Are yours and your child's (if using) privacy settings set up appropriately? For example, you can set that only 'my contacts' can add you to groups and even add exceptions to this rule.

**Android device:**

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/en/android/23225461/?category=5245250>

**iPhone device:** <https://faq.whatsapp.com/en/iphone/28041111>

In addition, protect your child's privacy by using a nickname (don't include their age/birth year) and also chat to your child to make sure that when playing online they know not to tell others personal information such as where they live, what school they go to and their age. More information is available here:

<https://parentinfo.org/article/staying-safe-on-minecraft>

