



Festive Tips

How to set up your Child's devices safely

While your child might be super excited to explore their first devices, you might be a bit worried about their safety. Correct set up can help to keep your child and their device safe.

Parental Controls:

Parental Controls can help give you peace of mind by helping you control what children have access to. They allow you to rest easy knowing that your child can do what they love on their device without being able to access things you don't want them to. You can set parental controls on your broadband or on individual devices. You can also use the device settings so you can only download age appropriate apps and games.

Location Services:

Location services are used by apps and websites to help tailor experiences to where users are at any given moment. This means that they could be sharing the location of your child's device, and by extension, your child. To prevent sharing this data, it's a good idea to switch off this feature. Remember there are apps and widgets that you can use so that you still have access to this information.

In –app Purchases:

You may want to avoid your child spending your hard-earned cash on things like filters or game features. The best way to prevent this is to change the settings for in-app purchases. You could disable or password protect them.

Talk to your Child:

Whatever the age of your child, you can have a conversation with them about how to make good decisions and stay safe online. Learn about key issues and how to discuss them with your children so they know how to stay safe online. If your child is using social networking apps check their profile and privacy settings. Make sure they keep personal or private information to themselves.

Further Information:

The <u>Safer Schools Scotland App</u> has more information on device set up and lots of other tips on apps, games and current issues. You can also search <u>NSPCC—Keeping Children Safe Online</u>.

