

eSafety newsletter



Parent edition

Summer 2017



NSPCC warns that Yellow app is like 'Tinder for teens'

Many teenagers worldwide are signing up to use the Yellow app. Yellow advertises as a 'free way to make new chat friends'. It has been compared to the adult dating app Tinder as users swipe right to like someone and left to pass. Users must be 13+ to sign-up for the Yellow app. According to the terms of service, users between the ages of 13 – 17 years old should have parental permission before signing up or creating an account. The NSPCC has raised huge concerns about the app as teenagers are publicly sharing sexually suggestive photographs of themselves which can easily be accessed by strangers. When two users 'like' each other they can chat by adding each other on picture messaging service Snap Chat. Yellow has no checks in place to verify the age of anyone joining the app. Check out the online safety concerns raised by the Internet Matters Team.

Visit: <http://bit.ly/2nvHUc9>



Kayleigh's Love Story

This is a chilling five minute film to show young people and adults the dangers of grooming and sexual exploitation. It documents the true story of the murder of Kayleigh. Kayleigh, a 15 year old school girl, was groomed online via Facebook over a 15 day period before being raped and murdered. The video ends with a warning:

"Stop and think. When you meet someone online, you don't always know who you are talking to."

The film has been made by Leicestershire Police with the support of Kayleigh Haywood's family and would have a 15 rating if shown in a cinema. There is a fact sheet that has been published that contains information for parents and carers about online grooming and signs and behaviours to watch out for.

<http://bit.ly/2ocqfVj>

Watch the full film on YouTube:
<http://bit.ly/2o6h4cj>

Sexting, Selfies and Nudies

When people talk about sexting, they usually mean sending and receiving naked pictures or 'nudies', 'underwear shots', sexual photographs or rude text or video messages. For young people under 18 it is against the law for anyone to take or have a sexual photo of them – even if it's a selfie.

A study last year for the NSPCC and children's commissioner found 13% of 11 to 16 year-olds reported that they had taken topless pictures of themselves and 3% had taken fully naked pictures of themselves.

It is an issue that has become increasingly worrying for parents. A YouGov survey found that parents were now more concerned about the impact of sexting on their children than about alcohol and drug abuse.



The NSPCC website is a good source of information for parents and helps explain the risks of sexting. It offers advice on how to talk to your child about this issue.

Visit: <http://bit.ly/SexT55>

LEGO Life



Lego has launched a 'safe' social network for under 13s through a new app called 'LEGO Life'. It allows children to put photographs of their creations on the site. There are protections in place to help ensure the site is child friendly. Users can use the predetermined text comments or customised Lego emoji's to respond to posts. Children have to use parents' details to sign up. The app prohibits the sharing of personal information or photos that could be used to identify a user or give away their location. Children can only comment on posts rather than have a continuous chat.

Do you talk to your child openly, and regularly about ways they can keep safe online?

Why not use the NSPCC parent resources to help you start a conversation.

<http://bit.ly/2nqlvu3>

Try these conversation starters from the Childnet website

<http://bit.ly/2nHQk0v>

Take a look at the O2 and NSPCC 'A parents' guide to being Share Aware'.

<http://bit.ly/2nqlzKj>

And finally...Need help setting parental controls? Take a look at the guidance from the NSPCC on how parental controls can be used to block upsetting or harmful content, to control in-app purchases or to manage how long your child spends online.

<http://bit.ly/2nHwvGI>

Cyberbullying 'Letter X' game on Snapchat



The 'Letter X' game is a new craze and involves targeting one person that several people know and posting mean and nasty comments about them. It starts by one member of a group chat sending the letter X to another member in a message. The recipient then has to send back the name of someone known to the whole group for all of the group to write mean comments about. The comments although made anonymously can be posted publically for all to read! Snapchat is an app age rated 13+. If your child is on Snapchat check this is not a game they are involved in. Encourage them to come and tell you if they are invited to join in and post inappropriate comments about anybody.

Useful websites

"I want to make it less likely that my children will get into trouble at home when online"

Find out how to make internet access safer at home on the Internet Matters website:

<http://bit.ly/ParentCont>

"I don't want people to see that when they search on the internet"

Find out how to ask Google to remove information from their search results here

<http://bit.ly/RemInfo>

"I have found a website that holds illegal content. How do I report it?"

Report illegal website content here:

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

For further eSafety advice visit:

<http://bit.ly/eSafetyAdviceforParents>