



Christmas is just around the corner!

Will you be ready?

If you are buying your child a new mobile phone, games console, tablet PC set up the device before you wrap it!

How?

The following websites provide advice and guidance on installing:

- Parental controls
- Safety settings

UK Safer Internet Centre – Parent’s guide to technology includes:

- Smartphones
- Gaming Devices
- Tablets
- Smart TV

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology>



Review Internet Matters checklist which provides simple tips to set up devices

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe/>

Don't forget! Talk about staying safe online

Be aware of key issues!

How?

Visit the following websites to find out:

NSPCC – Share Aware includes video, tips on how to start a conversation and much more:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/>

Parentzone – Guides for parents includes social media, parental controls for Netflix, Peer pressure, PEGI Ratings and much more:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>

Talk to a professional at the NSPCC’s helpline on 0808 800 5002 and Childline (0800 1111)

Will you be buying an internet connected toy?

Don't forget Internet connected toys also present risks and challenges!

- Ask questions about the toy in the shop **before** you buy:
- What information does the toy collect?
- Where is the information collected stored?
- Will the toy take pictures and/or store recordings of the child?
- Does the toy require location services to work?
- Can location services be switched off?
- Does the toy require a password?
- Who can interact with the toy?
- Are parental controls available?
- How are parental controls accessed?

Review CNBC’s article:

Toys and apps often track your kids and collect information about them!

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/11/23/connected-toys-privacy-risks.html>

NSPCC’s 8 Tips for keeping your family safe include: **Read the Manual!**



<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/technology-toys-and-the-internet/>

STOP PRESS! Yubo – previously Yellow!



- Advertised as a dating app for teenagers
- Does not verify ages upon sign-up.

‘Yubo is a social app to meet new friends and have fun with them.’

DISCORD



- Free chat service designed for gamers
- Does not verify ages upon sign-up.

Find out more:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>