UK Safer Internet Centre

UK Safer Internet Centre:
The European Commission-appointed UK Safer Internet Centre is made up of three partners; Childnet International, the South West Grid for Learning and the Internet Watch Foundation. Together we raise awareness about internet safety, develop information materials and resources and organise high profile events such as Safer Internet Day. Resources include a parent's guide to technology, information about parental controls and safety tools on social networks and other online services. You can access a range of resources from across the UK, Europe and wider afield at www.saferinternet.org.uk/parents.

Childnet:
Childnet International is a non-profit organisation working in partnership with others around the world to help make the internet a great and safe place for children. The Childnet website hosts all the online resources detailed below, as well as a number of recommended resources for young people, parents, carers and teachers. The Parents and Carers area also contains key advice, information on reporting and detailed information on a range of online safety topics in the hot topics section. www.childnet.com

South West Grid for Learning:
The South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) is a not for profit, charitable trust dedicated to the advancement of education through information and communication technologies. They provide safe, supported broadband internet, teaching and learning services for 2,500 schools in the South West of England and e-safety education and training regionally, nationally and internationally. They provide professionals, parents and children with advice, resources and support to use internet technologies safely to enhance learning and maximise potential. www.swgfl.org.uk

Internet Watch Foundation:
The Internet Watch Foundation is the UK's hotline for reporting illegal content found on the internet. It deals specifically with child abuse and criminally obscene images hosted in the UK and internationally. The IWF works in partnership with the online industry, law enforcement, government, and international partners. It is a charity and a self-regulatory body with over 100 Members from the online industry. www.iwf.org.uk

Safer Internet Day information, resources and further support

Safer Internet Day:
Celebrated globally every year, Safer Internet Day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. This year's global theme is 'Together for a Better Internet' and in the UK, the theme is 'Free to be me: exploring identity online.' The campaign will particularly empower young people to explore how they manage their online identity, and how the internet shapes what they think of themselves and others. www.saferinternetday.org.uk

UK Safer Internet Centre:
The UK Safer Internet Centre produces weekly blogs which offer information and advice on a range of topics. They are written to reflect current and emerging trends as well as questions received during training sessions. Some useful ones for this year's theme are:

- Cyberbullying advice for parents and carers
- Sharenting: how am I adding to my child's digital footprint?
- Why is online sexual harassment an issue for women and girls?

Common Sense Media - 6 Ways Your Kids Can Protect Their Online Identities:
Common Sense Media have produced a short video with some helpful advice on supporting your child to protect their identity while using the internet.
www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/6-ways-your-kids-can-protect-their-online-identities

Planned Parenthood – How do I talk with my pre-schooler about identity?
Planned Parenthood have conversation starters and practical ideas to help you talk to children under 5 about their identity. There is also a short video with further guidance.
www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/parents/preschool/how-do-i-talk-with-my-preschooler-about-identity

The Children's Society – Identity:
The Children's Society have advice and top tips for supporting young people who are struggling with their identity. They also have links to more advice around the connection between identity and self-esteem.
www.childrenssociety.org.uk/mental-health-advice-for-children-and-young-people/identity

Safer Internet Day information, resources and further support cont.

Family Lives – Helping your child stay connected with their culture:
Family Lives is a charity dedicated to supporting parents and carers with looking after their families. They have advice around helping your child to embrace their cultural identity and stay connected to it, including a video and top tips.
www.familylives.org.uk/advice/primary/health-and-development/culture/

Childline – Sexual Identity and Gender Identity:
Childline have a number of web pages with advice for young people who are feeling confused about their gender identity or questioning their sexual orientation. They have links to specific advice and short videos with more information. www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/sexual-identity/

NSPCC – Talking about difficult topics:
The NSPCC have some advice around how to start conversations with your child about sensitive subjects in order to help keep themselves safe.
www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/talking-about-difficult-topics/

Resources to use with children and young people

Family Agreement:
As a family you may wish to set up a family agreement which is a great way to start a conversation with your whole family about how you all use the internet and discuss together how to behave in a positive way when online at home, at school or at a friend's. www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement

Digiduck Stories:
The Digiduck story collection has been created to help parents and teachers educate children aged 3 - 7 about how to be a good friend online. The collection includes a book, PDF and interactive app.
www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories

Childnet Primary Pages:
You may wish to work through this series of interactive quizzes together with your child to help you talk about how to stay safe online and what to do if things go wrong. Aimed at children aged 8-12, the quizzes include topics such as online gaming, social media and sharing things online.
www.childnet.com/young-people/primary/get-answers

Safer Internet Day Films:
Our SID Films provide a great way to start a discussion with your child about how the internet makes them feel and what tips they have about staying safe online. There are different videos aimed at younger and older children. www.saferinternet.org.uk/sid-films

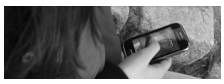
Information for parents and carers

Let's talk about life online:
Advice for parents and carers on how to talk with their child about staying happy, positive and safe when online. www.childnet.com/resources/lets-talk-about-life-online

Information and Advice for Foster Carers/Adoptive Parents:
The UK Safer Internet Centre has worked together with Islington Council to create leaflets for foster carers and adoptive parents. The leaflets, which are free to download and easy to print, include top tips and conversation starters to help foster carers and adoptive parents get to grips with internet safety.
www.saferinternet.org.uk/fostering-adoption

Keeping Under Fives Safe Online:
Children love using technology and are learning to navigate websites, online games and consoles, and touch screen technology like tablets and smartphones from a younger and younger age. This advice contains top tips for parents and carers for keeping children aged five and under safe online.
www.childnet.com/resources/keeping-under-fives-safe-online

Where to report/get help



Need help?
Information about what to do if a child comes to you for help, and advice about how to report online concerns such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content or illegal behaviour. www.saferinternet.org.uk/need-help

Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP):
A police agency tackling child sexual abuse and grooming online. This website includes a unique facility that enables parents and young people to make reports of grooming or child sexual abuse online. www.ceop.police.uk

CEOP's Think U Know website contains information for children and parents, as well as a link for children to report sexual abuse or grooming online. www.thinkuknow.co.uk

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Report Harmful Content:

Provided by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the Report Harmful Content website gives advice on how to report online problems. It can also mediate where appropriate or explain why content has not been removed, and can provide assistance in removing harmful content from platforms. reportharmfulcontent.com

NSPCC:

The NSPCC has partnered with O2 to provide an online safety helpline for parents and carers to answer questions and address concerns about a child's online safety: 0808 800 5002.

They also provide the Childline helpline for children where they can talk to someone for advice and support at any time by contacting 0800 1111 or chatting to a counsellor online at www.childline.org.uk

Young Minds:

The UK's leading charity committed to improving the wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Information and advice for young people and parents/carers can be found at www.youngminds.org.uk and they also offer a free confidential helpline for parents on 0808 802 5544.