

## Parent and Carer Digital Safety Newsletter

### Technology at Christmas Time

Christmas is a magical time for children, filled with excitement and even new digital gifts. Even though these gifts offer wonderful opportunities for digital fun, it is also crucial to reinforce online safety. With new devices, apps and games, children can be exposed to new risks.

#### 1. New Device Security

- Activate parental controls
- Set strong passwords
- Disable in-game purchases
- Check privacy and location settings
- Never share personal information

#### 2. Establish digital boundaries

- Set time limits on screen time
- Model good behaviour online

#### 3. Prioritise open communication

- Talk often and maintain an open dialogue
- Ensure your child knows how to delete, block and report

#### 4. Vet new apps and games

- Check age ratings are appropriate
- Understand features and game functionality

[UK Safer Internet Centre | Staying safe online at Christmas](#)

### “Hi Mum/Hi Dad” WhatsApp impersonation scams

Scammers impersonate your child or friend by using a new number and will send messages similar to this:

“Mum/Dad, I lost my phone— I need some money urgently!”

Once you respond, they’ll pressure you to send money to a new “safe account”.

#### Stay safe against this type of scam:

- Always **call the person** on their original number to verify before sending any money
- Be cautious of emotional urgency — it’s a major red flag
- Report the number on WhatsApp and forward suspicious texts to **7726**



## Parent and Carer

### Digital Safety Newsletter Roblox

Roblox has recently implemented significant new safety features aimed at enhancing child safety after it received criticism about children being able to access inappropriate content and as well as being able to talk to strangers.

The most critical changes centre on age verification and improved parental controls:

#### 1. **Mandatory Age Verification**

Roblox is now requiring users to verify their age to access chat and communication features

#### 2. **Expanded parental control features**

Parents now have robust tools to actively manage their child's account

For further information, read the following article: [BBC News | Roblox blocks children from chatting to adult strangers](#)



### Online safety for parents' webinars

If you haven't yet signed up for our free **Digital Safety for Parents** webinar, there are new dates available for 2026. During the session you will learn about:

- The risks & dangers children face online
- Social media & gaming
- Healthy screentime
- How to set up parental controls
- Privacy & locations settings

[Eventbrite | 19th January 12.30pm - 2pm](#)

[Eventbrite | 15th April 6pm - 7.30pm](#)

[Eventbrite | 12th August 12pm - 1.30pm](#)

[Eventbrite | 8th December 6pm - 7.30pm](#)

For more information, visit our [website](#) or look at our [Eventbrite](#) page for other upcoming talks.



*From the Digital Safety & Fraud Prevention team, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*