



Online Safety Newsletter CRGS

December 2022



At CRGS we encourage open conversation with students about sensitive issues and keep the channels of communications open about their life experiences.

ASKING THE AWKWARD 'TALK LITTLE. TALK OFTEN. ASK THE AWKWARD.' (CEOP)

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) has put together guidance on 'Asking the Awkward', and this includes talking about teenagers their social or romantic online lives. For many young people, and adults, the online world is an essential component in starting, continuing and ending a romantic relationship. There are [short films](#) that you can watch with your child to help start conversations. "Our introduction to Asking The Awkward helps you to prepare for regular conversations with your child about online relationships and related topics. It also offers advice on how to keep conversations positive and what to do if your child tells you something that worries you." [Access the guidance.](#)



Gaming Communities

Gaming communities are platforms which allow gaming fans to meet, chat, watch top gamers in action via live streaming, access forum discussions and keep in touch with others who have similar gaming interests. Reddit and Discord are two popular sites associated with social gaming communities. Both these sites have an age rating of 13+. Parent zone has put together a [guide](#) to help families understand the benefits and risks of gaming communities for children and offer suggestions of how parents can help support safety on such sites.

Read the [Parentzone guide to Reddit](#)

Read the [Parentzone guide to Discord](#)





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Live Streaming

In a recent survey carried out by Ofcom it was reported that six in ten children aged 3-17 (57%) used live streaming platforms to watch online content. A much lower proportion of children streamed their own videos in real time for others to watch (15%).

The research found that the platforms used most to watch live streams were YouTube and TikTok. (Data source: Ofcom Children and Parent: media use and attitudes report 2022)

The NSPCC has published guidance to help parents/carers understand some of the risks associated with both live streaming and watching live stream channels. Once content has been livestreamed, there is the risk that videos are saved and re shared without permission. Its possible for strangers to make contact with a child about their livestreamed content and start a grooming process. The [guidance](#) gives an overview of some of the features that help reduce risk for children



Supporting young people with SEND

This new resource is for schools and parent/carers to help support young people with SEND, aged 11 and over, to thrive online.

“These resources are designed to empower young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to build happy and healthy online relationships.”

The [resources](#) for parents and carers are designed to help start conversations and help support your child around the topics of:

- online pornography
- healthy online relationships
- digital wellbeing
- nudes

