



Week 1

# Online Safety Fact Check for Parents



## Q1. What is Live streaming?

**Answer:** Live streaming is broadcasting video over the internet, but at the same time it is being filmed, it is being shown to an audience and is uncensored and unedited. It can be broadcast to a wide audience or as part of a 1:1 live video chat. You can now live stream on a variety of different platforms (such as Facebook, Zoom and Instagram etc.)

- [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-live-streaming](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-live-streaming)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMT77yvO8lo>

## Q2. What 3 things should you encourage your child to do if they receive a nasty message online?

**Answer:** Block that person, report them directly to either the game/app (or via [www.reportharmfulcontent.com](http://www.reportharmfulcontent.com)) and tell a trusted adult. When schools are in operation and you think they should know, take a screenshot to show them as they have polices and a statutory responsibility to deal with bullying.

- <https://reportharmfulcontent.com/>

## Q3. What does YPSI stand for?

**Answer:** Youth Produced Sexualised Images. It is also known as sexting and it is the creation, sending or possession of indecent images taken by children. Sexting is illegal however schools and colleges have the capability to deal with this behaviour unless aggravating factors are identified which should be reported to police. More information around aggravating factors can be found at:

- [www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/personal-safety/yp-students/sexting/advice-parents](http://www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/personal-safety/yp-students/sexting/advice-parents)
- [www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/sexting](http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/sexting)

## Q4. How can I tell if a game or app is appropriate for my child?

**Answer:** The best way to check is either via the app rating on the app store (however you should be aware that the developers provide these age ratings and they are not necessarily independently rated) or via the PEGI rating system for games. If the app is a game, there will be indicators around what content it contains that may be unsuitable for younger users.

- [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child)
- [www.videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard](http://www.videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard)
- [www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/apps/how-do-i-know-if-an-app-is-age-appropriate-for-my-child](http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/apps/how-do-i-know-if-an-app-is-age-appropriate-for-my-child)
- [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk)

## Q5. Can my child upload videos onto YouTube kids?

**Answer:** No. YouTube Kids is aimed at 13 years and below and you are unable to post videos onto it. You can set a time limit on its use and filter content. There are different modes aimed for different age ranges that filter content to promote various aspects such as creativity, learning and exploration.

■ [www.youtube.com/kids/safer-experience](http://www.youtube.com/kids/safer-experience)

## Q6. What is the typical number of followers for a person to have on Instagram?

**Answer:** Online estimates vary as to the average number of followers, but it's typically estimated to be between 100-300 followers and this is not uncommon in Dorset. It is important to have the conversation with your children about how many of their Instagram followers they actually know. If they don't know them all, what personal information are they potentially disclosing either via their pictures, comments or messages?

## Q7. What is the name of the new safety feature in TikTok?

**Answer:** Family Safety Mode. By parent/carer setting up a TikTok account alongside their child's, they can manage screen time, direct messages and restrict certain types of content that they feel is not appropriate for their child.

■ [www.common sense media.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-tiktok](http://www.common sense media.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-tiktok)

## Q8. What does this button do?

**Answer:** It enables a direct report to the Child Exploitation and Online Prevention agency if you are concerned about sexual abuse or grooming online. This law enforcement agency will work with other professional agencies such as police to safeguard children and investigate crimes and those responsible.

■ [www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/)



## Q9. What are the main differences between private and public social media accounts?

**Answer:**

- Public accounts can be viewed by anyone and they can see the content that has been shared. This can include if any personal information has been shared such as name, age, address, school (including school logo) and pictures identifying user's location.
- Users of private accounts can control who is a friend or follower of that account
- The username and profile picture of a social media account (regardless if private or not) can still be seen by the public. This includes the biography on Instagram.