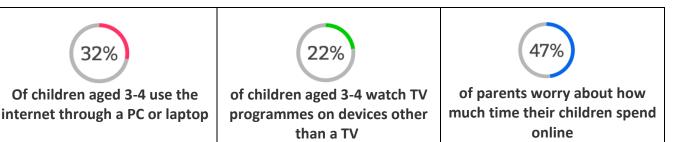
## **INTERNET SAFETY for YOUR CHILD**

There are many websites you can view to find out useful information about internet safety. We would urge you to have a look to keep your child safe online.

www.internetmatters.org www.childnet.com www.thinkuknow.co.uk

More and more Pre-School and Nursery aged children are borrowing their mum's or dad's computers, <u>smartphones</u> or <u>tablets</u> to play games, use <u>apps</u>, and watch their favourite TV shows. There are some simple things you can do to make sure they're using the internet safely.



**Put yourself in control:** Install <u>parental controls</u> on your home broadband. Most internet-enabled devices also allow you to set parental controls.

**Explore together:** Set your homepage to a child-friendly site like CBeebies and create a user account for your child on the family computer which only allows access to sites you've chosen.

**Use passwords:** Keep your devices out of reach and set passwords on all your internet-enabled devices and don't share them. Then you'll know when and where your child is accessing the internet. You can also make sure they're not making additional purchases when they're playing games or using apps.

**Help them learn through games:** You can choose safe, fun and educational online games to play with your child and that you'll be confident about them exploring. You can find good free of charge examples from companies like Disney and Fisher Price. Don't forget to explore <a href="www.busythings.co.uk">www.busythings.co.uk</a> – **Kingswood have** bought into this for you to use at home with your child! *Please ask us if you have forgotten the passwords.* 

**Stay involved:** Put your family computer in a communal area like the lounge or kitchen so you can keep an eye on how they're using the internet and also share in their enjoyment.

**Set boundaries:** It's never too early to start setting boundaries. Set some rules about how long your child can spend online.

**Search safely:** Use safe search engines such as <a href="www.swiggle.org">www.swiggle.org</a> or <a href="www.kids-search.com">www.kids-search.com</a>. You can save time by adding these to your 'Favourites'. Safe search settings can also be activated on <a href="Google">Google</a> and other search engines, as well as <a href="YouTube">YouTube</a>.

**Put yourself in control:** Install <u>parental controls</u> on your home broadband. Most internet-enabled devices also allow you to set parental controls.

The digital age has changed what it means to be a child. There are some things that children don't want to see online and that you, as a parent, would rather they didn't. Parental controls can help you protect your children from internet baddies when they're online.



Weapons & Violence

27% of 7-11 year olds said they'd seen something unpleasant of hurtful online in the last year.



Pornography

1 in 4 children said they had seen online porn by the age of 12.

## There are a number of parental controls tools you can use:

- Broadband providers offer the ability to set network level parental controls on your home broadband. They restrict access to particular categories of website, filtering inappropriate content like pornography and violence, limit access times, and even allow you to block individual websites. They work on every device that's connected to your broadband network.
- Most gaming consoles, mobile phones, tablets, and even smart TV's will also allow you to set parental controls on each device
- You can set safe search and look for safety mode settings on operating system software, search engines, social networking sites and video sharing sites like YouTube.

See www.internetmatters.org for online guides and resources about how to set these up.

Also see their social networking page for help with safety and privacy settings.

