Skips Safety Net

Keeping children safe online



A Parent's Guide to AI Companions



Your child's new online friend might not be human.

AI companions can seem like caring friends, but they are artificial intelligence, not real people. Your child may not understand how their information is used.

scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online

What are the risks?

- May give poor advice.
- Could encourage secrecy.
- Might introduce inappropriate content.
- Could reinforce harmful thinking.
- May become more influential than trusted adults.
- May lead children to share personal information.
- Even when children speak rather than type, their conversations can be turned into written words and stored online, alongside photographs and personal information they share.

  In the wrong hands, this information could be used to blackmail, groom, bully or radicalise.

What you can do to help

Talk about the apps your child uses. Check age limits and privacy settings. Keep personal details out of chats. Explain that a chatbot is not a real friend. Encourage time with family and friends, and let your child know they can always talk to you without getting into trouble.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

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Developed in partnership with

Home Office
BUILDING A SAFE, JUST AND TOLERANT SOCIETY

West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit

west midlands police and crime commissioner