ONLINE SAFETY

Have you ever wondered what your child is doing online?
Well let me tell you! There may be a chance that he/she might be talking to strangers online. Well its true! Not everyone online has good intentions, some want to ruin peoples day or even try and bring harm to your child.
This article will cover how to keep your child safe and any recommendations for you and your child when playing online!

Messaging and communication

The games your child is playing aren't always safe and may include settings for communication, which allow your child to talk to others online. This can be very unsafe for your child .

To turn off this form of communication, you can go to the settings for each game and disable it in the audio settings.

- Most, if not all games have the ability to change this in the settings menu. You should find this easily by going into the menu and disabling their mic or their global chat settings.

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Parental controls

Most gaming devices and apps have an option called parental controls, this allows you to monitor your children's playtime and see what games they are playing. Within the settings, you can set age restrictions for all games . If a games age rating is 16+ and your child is 12, then your child cannot play that game until they meet the age rating requirements. This is useful to stop your child from playing inappropriate games such as "Grand Theft Auto 5" and the "Call of Duty" series.

Social media

Similar to parent controls, there are settings in certain social media that allow you to keep your child safe from strangers online (such as Youtube, Twitter, Tiktok, etc.) It is suggested that you turn on these settings on your child's preferred device, these settings are normally under some security tab/subheading.

Reporting

Last but not least, always remember to tell your child that if you see anything that makes you feel uncomfortable, to report it and don't share it.

Ending

These tips will not completely protect your child from strangers and bad people, your child still needs some sense of their own. But these tips can make your child less likely to meet strangers thus keeping them safer online!

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