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Understanding Online Safety –
Guidance for Parents / Carers

Staying Safe Online and Reporting

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What are you most WORRIED about when your child is ONLINE?

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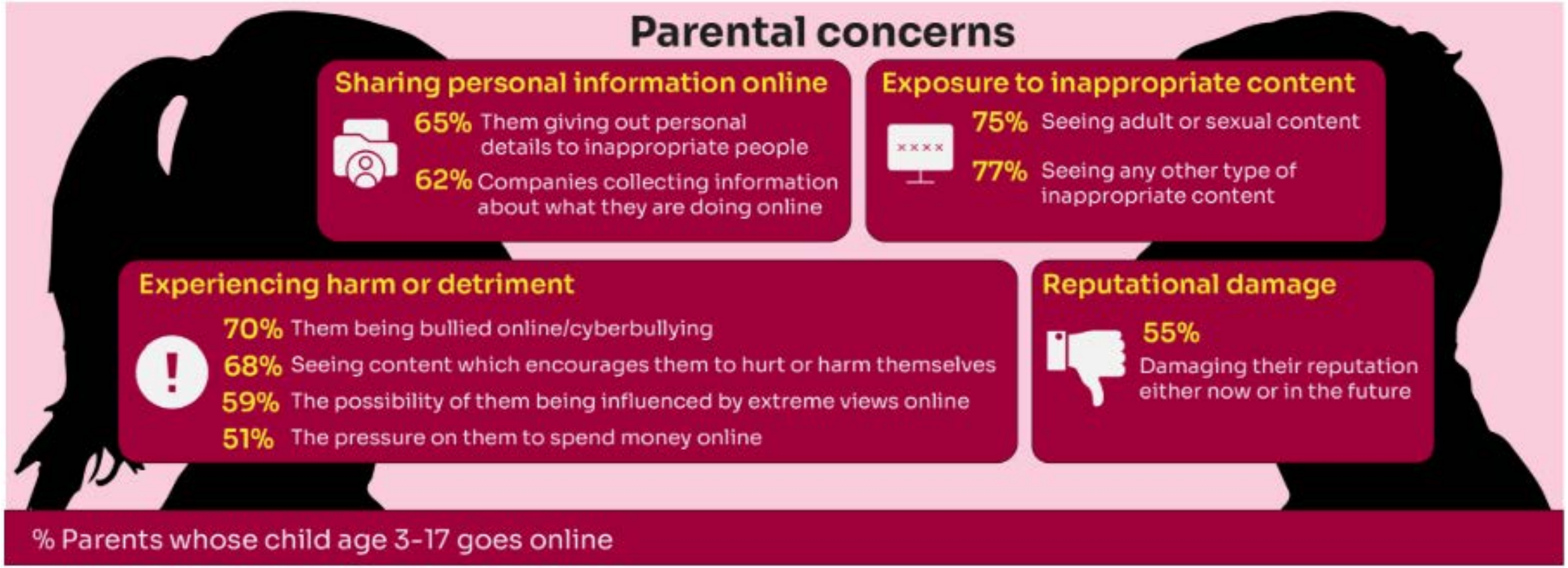
Summary of parental concerns (3 – 17 yr-olds)



Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024

Does your child TRUST everything they see online?

Sixteen and seventeen-year-olds are less sure of their ability to distinguish the real from the fake online than they were last year:

Try our Critical Thinking Quiz at believe.lgfl.net

Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024

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32% of 8-17s had seen something they found **worrying or nasty** online in the past 12 months

59% of parents were concerned about them being influenced by **extremist** content

Visit goingtoofar.lgfl.net to find out how to help children and young people:

- recognise extremist behaviour and content on social media/apps/games
- understand actions likely to attract police investigation
- get help
- report concerns

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Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report

Are children and young people aware of the implications their actions could have?

Could they be breaking the law?
Or putting themselves or others at risk?
Visit goingtoofar.lgfl.net to find out more.

Try this quiz together with your child / young person
takingastand.lgfl.net

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Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report

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YOU don't need to be an EXPERT … be a PARENT

- **Stay involved** – make time to communicate, talk about what they are doing. What do they enjoy? What makes them laugh?
- **Don't quiz them** – have regular conversations. What's their favourite app? What is the best site to learn new things from?
- **Join in** - watch them play a game and join in. Who are they playing with? Do they know the other players?
- **'Show me how…'** – ask their advice to help you with your privacy settings, who you should add as a friend, are there any risks?
- **Lead by example** – children and young people learn as much from watching as they do from being told not to do something, so model good behaviour
- **Reassure them -** tell them that they won't get in trouble and that you are always there to help.

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parentsafe.lgfl.net Home

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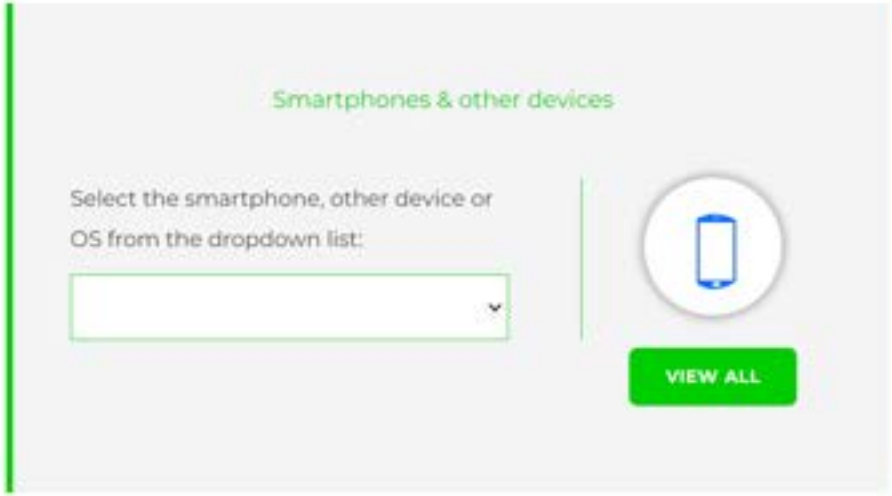
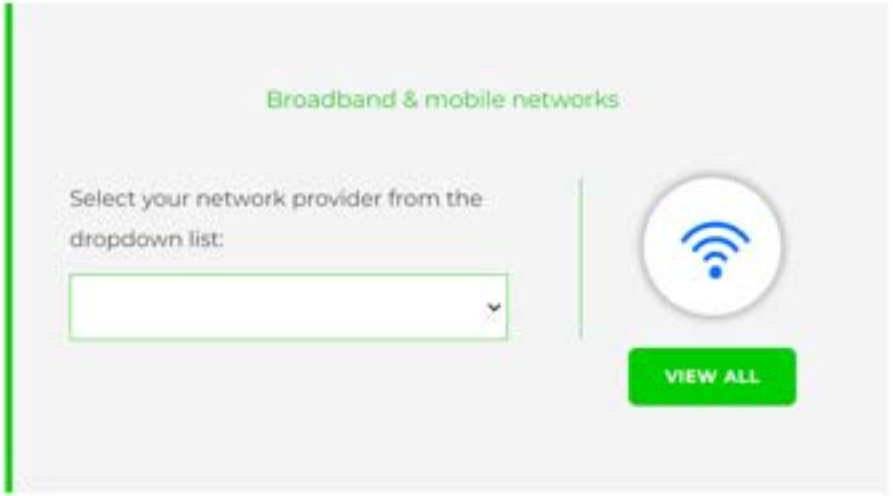
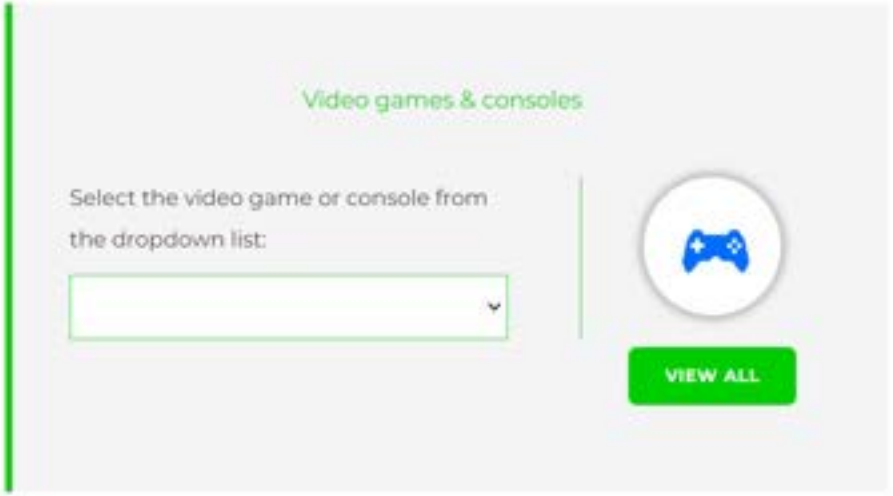
Visit www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/ to find out how to set controls on devices:







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DID YOU KNOW?

Parental control apps like Google Family Link, Screen Time and Microsoft Family can let you set limits across devices, apps and platforms

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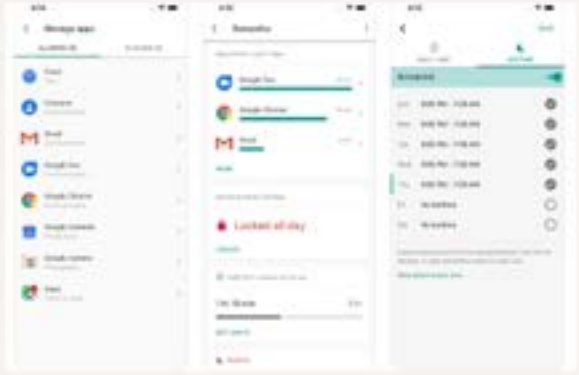
SAFE SETTINGS, CONTROLS & MONITORING

Apple, Android and Microsoft have tools to help you control what younger children can use and how long for. Click the images below for details. Once they are older and have your trust, the same tools can help avoid arguments and help them learn to self-regulate (how long have they really been on insta today? have they put down the phone at all in the last week?).

Apple Screen Time

Great for both parental controls and teen self-regulation



Google Family Link

Digital Wellbeing is the next step for the older ones after Family Link

Microsoft Family Safety

There are no self-regulation features for older teens, but Family Safety is great for the younger ones

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Visit parentsafe.lgfl.net/ for additional advice and tips on settings and controls for all devices

What do YOUNG PEOPLE do to STAY SAFE ONLINE?

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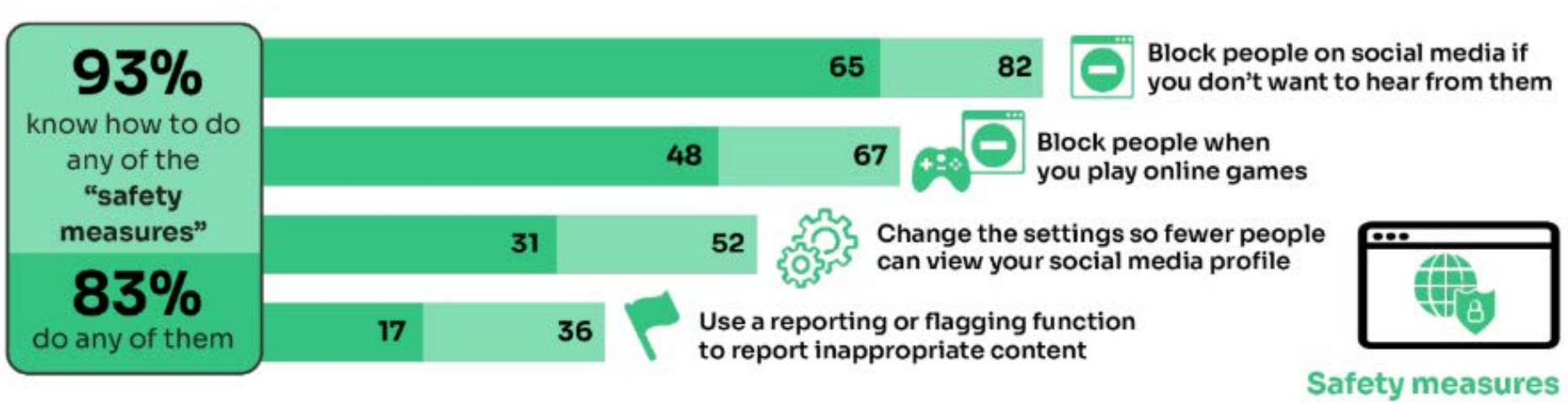

Only 17% of those asked had used a reporting or flagging function
(36% were aware of these functions)

Visit parentsafe.lgfl.net/ for additional advice and tips on settings and controls for all devices

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Source: Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2024

Do YOU know HOW TO REPORT to apps / sites?

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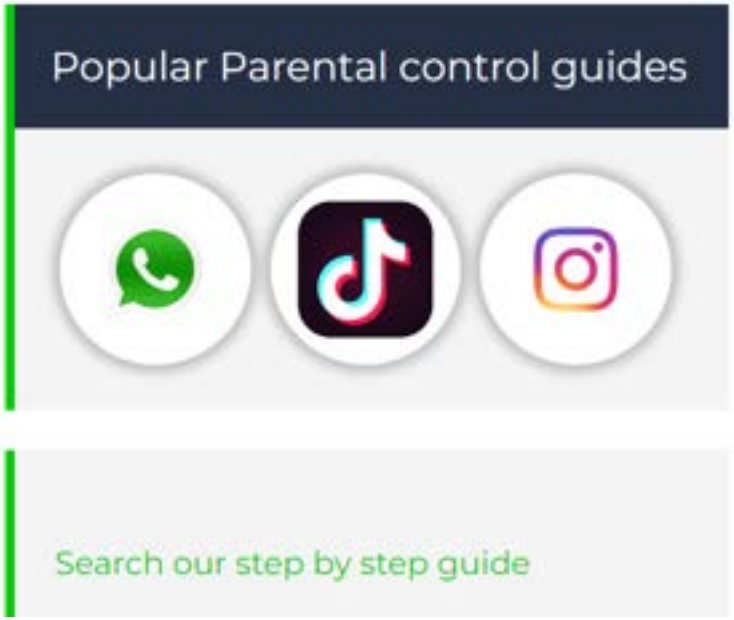
Internet Matters has helpful guides for social media apps and sites at internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media



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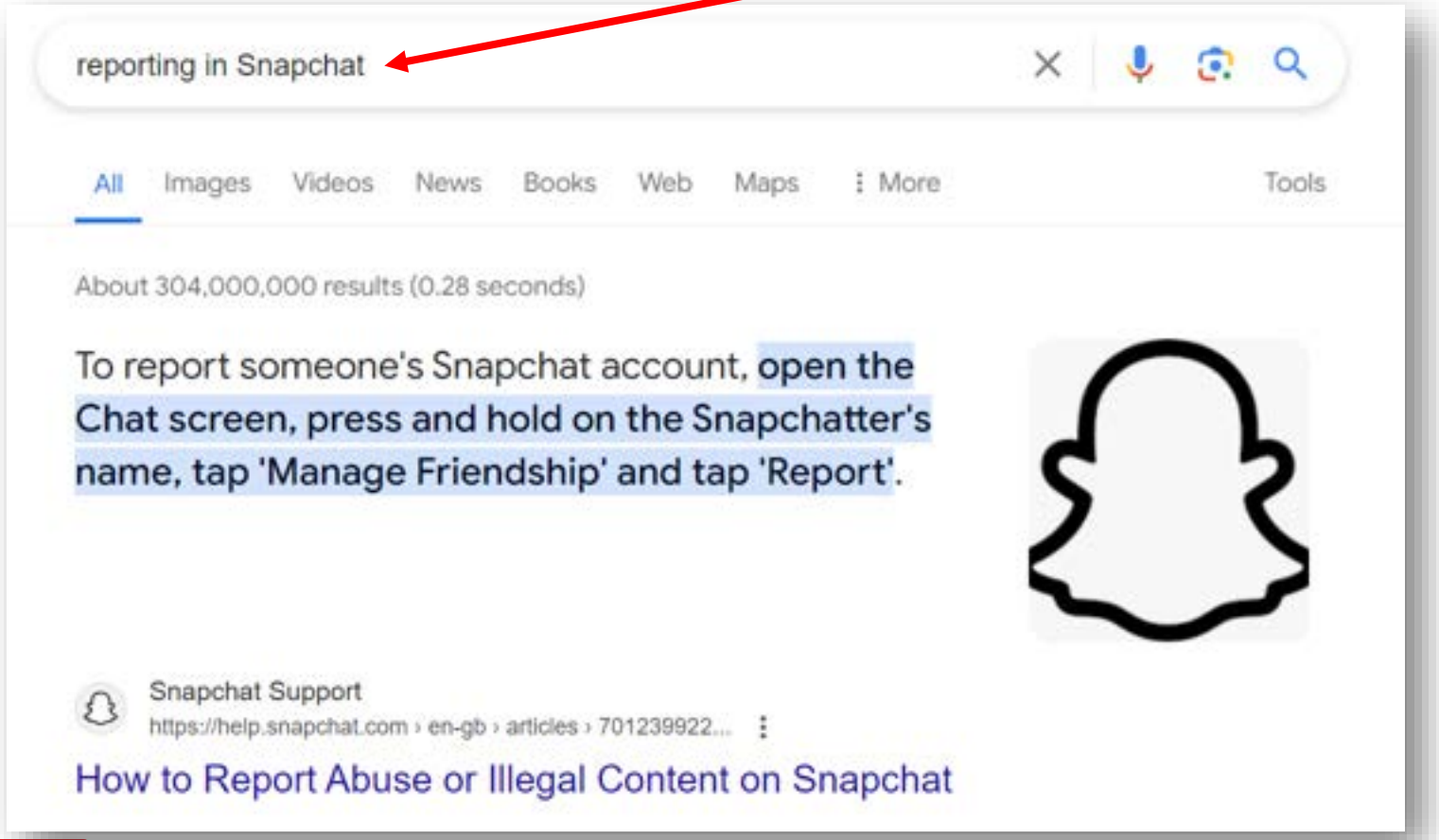

A simple **Google search** with the site name, **e.g. 'reporting in Snapchat'** will bring up the steps to take and signpost to the reporting page

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Remember!

- Before signing up to any app/site, **check that your child or young person meets the minimum age** requirement for the platform to understand the risks

- Remind your child / young person to be **cautious about accepting friend requests** - a real friend is someone they/you know in real life, not a 'friend' they met gaming or in a chat room. Encourage them to **ask you for advice** if they are unsure.

- Stress the importance of **not sharing personal information** with online 'friends'

- Keep **passwords confidential**

- **Check their privacy settings**, emphasising the importance of not sharing personal information with strangers, and emphasising the confidentiality of passwords are all important steps

- You or they can **report any content**, e.g. a post, image or harmful, misleading or damaging comment

- Remember that **reporting doesn't guarantee immediate** removal, as platforms assess reported content based on their respective rules and policies

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UK Reporting Helplines and Services for Children and Young People

Call 101 or 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm to your child

Take It Down

[Take It Down]

[The Mix - Essential support for under 25s]

THE MIX
Essential support for under 25s

CLICK CEOP
Advice Help Report

NCA

Young people can report concerns about child sexual abuse and exploitation to NCA

[Home - National Crime Agency]

REPORT REMOVE
Nude image of you online? We can help take it down.

Report Remove

A free tool that allows children to report nude or sexual images and videos of themselves that they think might have been shared online

[Report Remove | Childline]

ChildLine
0800 1111

ChildLine

A free, private and confidential service where CYP can talk about anything to a trained counsellor, online or on the phone

[Childline | Childline]

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Go to [reporting.lgfl.net] to find out more

Reporting a Safeguarding Concern to the Buxton and Leek College Safeguarding Team

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Go to our BLC "Report a Concern" Website Page:
Report a safeguarding concern - Buxton & Leek College

REPORT A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN

MyVoice allows students, parents and carers to anonymously report a safeguarding concern about a student at Buxton and Leek College. Click the link or QR code to report your concern to our Safeguarding Team.

The form requires you to name the person(s) you are concerned about, write a sentence outlining the concern, indicating when this concern occurred, and then as much detail you can about your concern.

You can choose to remain anonymous or if you are happy to include your details you can do.

Remember

If possible, we would always prefer you to speak directly to a member of staff so that we can provide the most effective support.

This is NOT a place for reporting concerns about a member of staff.

This is NOT a forum through which to complain, please use existing processes to do this.

Any abuse of this system will not be tolerated and in the event that concerns are reported that are deliberately false or malicious, we will refer to Police as this behaviour may be considered a crime.

Student misuse of MyVoice may result in sanctions through our disciplinary process.

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