

# Welcome to the May 2021 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

## Online Safety Bill Announced



Outlining what are described as 'landmark laws' to protect children and young people online, the government has released its

draft [Online Safety Bill](#), establishing a new regulatory framework to tackle harmful content online.

The draft Bill includes changes to put an end to harmful practices, while ushering in a new era of accountability and protections for democratic debate, including:

- Further provisions to tackle prolific online scams
- Social media sites, website, apps and other services hosting user-generated content or allowing people to talk to others must remove and limit the spread of illegal and harmful content
- Ofcom will be given the power to fine companies failing in a **new duty of care** up to £18 million

Read the draft Bill in detail [here](#)

Actively involved in the arguments for this draft Bill, Parent Zone's responses and recommendations to the [Online Harms White Paper](#) (July 2019) and the government's review in December 2020 can be read [here](#)

### Need Help?

Visit [Childnet's website](#) to find out what to do if your child comes to you and needs help:

- Remember 'Communication is essential'
- Save the evidence wherever possible
- Evidence may include screen shots
- Knowing who to report to is a really useful step to resolve many issues
- [Find out how to make a report](#)
- Familiarise yourself with the reporting services available  
[CEOP](#); [INTERNET WATCH FOUNDATION](#); [CHILDLINE](#); [OFCOM](#); [TRUE VISION](#)
- Remember it may be necessary to inform your child's school too. (**Designated Safeguarding Lead**)

### Set up parental controls!

The [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) has provided video tutorials for parents and carers to help you find out how to prevent age inappropriate content being accessed online on computers in your home. [BT](#); [SKY](#); [TALKTALK](#); [VIRGIN MEDIA](#)

**HELP IN THE HOLIDAYS!** Remember **FREE** advice is just a phone call away from the O<sub>2</sub> and NSPCC helpline **0800 800 002** and Childline **0800 1111**

## UK Council for Safer Internet Council - Digital Passport

### What the tool offers:

- Help to empower the child's digital life in a positive and supportive way
- Support agreements about internet access and use of devices between carers and children
- Help to make the most of what technology offers

### How does it work?

The Digital Passport can be used as a way of discussing views, feelings and experiences around a child's digital life

Provides children in care with a way of opening up a conversation about how they can be best supported



An Introduction  
Helping children, young people and their carers make the most of technology through relationship building and communication

[Digital Passport for children and young people](#)

### Have you heard of Whisper?

#### Recommended Age 17+

*Whisper is a social 'confessional' app that allows users to post whatever's on their mind, which is then paired with an image.*



*The app encourages private communications in which users can exchange images and personal information. The location sharing feature in this app helps users connect with other users nearby.*

*The iOS app requires users to confirm they're at least 17 years old before they download the app.*

[Common Sense Media's view](#) -

***It is absolutely not an app for children!***

Find out more about this App at:

- [Commonsense Media](#)
- [Smart Social](#)

### Disney+ Parental Controls and Privacy Settings

As Disney+ adds more mature content to the streaming site with Disney+ Star, [SWGFL's blog](#) looks at the privacy settings and parental controls available.

Read the blog in detail to find out more about:

- Restricting Mature Content
- Filtering content for the family
- Adding Child Profiles

If you or your child need further support, visit the SWGFL's support pages on [Report Harmful Content](#) to find more bespoke Advice.

