

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARENTS

This information sheet provides links to further information on a range of topics as referenced in Childnet's 'Mind the Gap' presentation.

1. THE CHILDNET WEBSITE

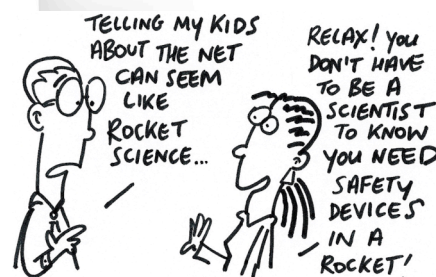
Childnet International houses an array of resources for parents, including:

- The '**Mind the Gap**' PowerPoint presentation that highlights the gap which exists between children's real experience online and their parent's awareness of these experiences. You can watch the presentation again online and review the issues and practical advice contained in the presentation.
- **Know IT All for Parents**: an interactive CD-ROM produced by Childnet which contains safety advice in the form of videos as well as activities that parents can do with their children to help them get the most out of the internet and mobile phones and know how to stay safe.
- A selection of '**Fact Sheets**' for parents on specific areas of internet safety and computer security, such as mobile phones, internet addiction, putting photos on the internet, chatting online, searching online and Spam.

All of these resources are found in the '**Parents Support**' section on the **Childnet website**.

Childnet Parents Support: www.childnet-int.org/safety/parents.aspx

Childnet also has a number of resources for parents and young people that can be ordered online at: www.childnet-int.org/order/default.aspx



2. CHILDNET'S CHATDANGER WEBSITE

This site for teenagers gives advice on how to stay safe while chatting online; it gives real life accounts and informs about the potential dangers on interactive services like chat, IM, online games, email and mobiles.

Chatdanger: www.chatdanger.com

3. ADVICE ABOUT MOBILE PHONES

Children can easily get involved in creating and distributing potentially illegal images on their mobile phone. Check with your mobile operator to see what parental controls are available. Childnet has produced a guide for parents on mobile safety which can be downloaded from the website.

Childnet's Advice on Mobile Phones: <http://www.childnet-int.org/downloads/mobilesQ.pdf>

ICSTIS, the premium rate services regulator provides advice on using premium rate services.

ICSTIS: www.icstis.org.uk

There is also advice from ICSTIS specifically for young people at www.phonebrain.org.uk

4. FILTERS AND SAFETY ADVICE

This site reviews up to 140 different filtering tools to suit your needs. You can search according to different criteria. The site also has video clips of experts talking about online safety issues.

Get Net Wise: www.getnetwise.org

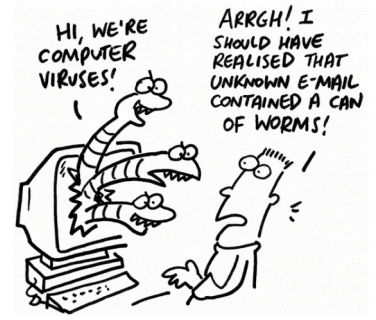
5. COMPUTER SECURITY

Childnet's Sorted website is a website produced by young people on the issues of internet security and protection. It gives people important information and advice on how to protect yourself online from the dangers of programmes such as viruses, phishing scams, spyware and Trojans.

Childnet's Sorted website: www.childnet-int.org/sorted

GetSafeOnline is a government website which focuses on online computer security and protection issues. It contains advice about firewalls, spyware and antivirus protection as well as how to protect your child.

GetSafeOnline: www.getsafeonline.org



6. ADVICE ABOUT FILESHARING

Childnet has developed a leaflet with the music industry called '**Young People, Music, and the Internet**', which can be downloaded from the Childnet website. You will find a list of legal sites to download music on the pro music website.

Childnet's Music: www.childnet-int.org/music

Pro music: www.pro-music.org/musiconline.htm

7. ADVICE ABOUT SOCIAL NETWORKING & BLOGS

Childnet has developed a leaflet with called '**Blog Safety**' which can be downloaded from the Childnet website. This is aimed to help parents understand the positive and creative ways young people are using blogs/social networking spaces (Bebo, MySpace, Piczo etc) but also points out the potential risks and ways to minimise these.

Childnet's Blog Safety: www.childnet-int.org/blogsafty

8. SEARCH ENGINES

Quite a lot of content is filtered when using a child friendly search engine, such as Yahoo!igans. Most adult search engines, such as Google, also have built in filtering options under the 'preferences' link.

Yahoo!igans: <http://yahooligans.yahoo.com>

9. INACCURATE CONTENT

The QUICK (The Quality Information Checklist) website has a useful checklist to assess whether a website is likely to be credible. You can go through it with your children.

QUICK: www.quick.org.uk

10. WHERE TO REPORT:

The **Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP)** centre is a new police agency tackling child abuse on the internet. It includes a unique facility that enables parents and young people to make reports of actual or attempted abuse online.

CEOP: www.ceop.gov.uk

The **Internet Watch Foundation** website is the UK's hotline for reporting illegal content found on the internet. It deals specifically with child abuse and criminally obscene images as well as racist content hosted in the UK.

Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk