

E safety Update



1. Zipit App

April 2016

Zipit is ChildLine's first ever app, available for Android, Apple and BlackBerry smartphones (and iPod touch). It's free to download.

What does Zipit do?

If someone's trying to get you to send them naked images of yourself, use the images on Zipit to keep the situation in control.

Zipit helps you get flirty chat back on the right track. It's packed with killer comebacks and top tips to help you stay in control of your chat game.

- Save images onto your device and share them with your friends!
- Share images on Facebook, Twitter, BBM or via email.
- Find out how to deal with a sexting crisis.
- Get advice to help you flirt without failing.
- Call ChildLine or save the number to your phone.

You can also share images from Zipit through other apps like Whatsapp or Instagram, depending on what kind of phone you have and what apps you have on your phone.

Will I be charged for Zipit?

Zipit is free to download, but if you send one of the images as a text with a picture (through MMS or Multimedia Message Service) you might be charged by your mobile provider. Have a look at your phone contract or the terms and conditions of Pay as You Go to make sure.

Link: <https://www.childline.org.uk/Play/GetInvolved/Pages/sexting-zipit-app.aspx>

2. Schools hit by sexting epidemic

The Times is reporting on an investigation it has undertaken that has found tens of thousands of schoolchildren have been caught sharing sexual imagery online in the past three years.

The paper claims that an analysis of data from 50 of our biggest secondary schools identified 1,218 pupils who had either sent or received a sext since 2012 (with more than one in ten cases involving a "non-school adult"). More than a third of all the cases involved children aged 12 and 13

If scaled up nationally, they report, this would suggest 44,112 secondary school pupils will be caught sexting in the past three years. However, they also suggest the figures, released under freedom of information laws, are likely to underestimate the practice as many cases will never come to a school's attention.

Link: http://schoolsImprovement.net/schools-hit-sexting-epidemic/?utm_source=Schools+Improvement+Net+updates+mailing+list&utm_campaign=b81de37ecb-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e37908ae22-b81de37ecb-96749825

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3. How to set up YouTube safety mode

April 2016

YouTube Safety Mode enable parents to choose whether to limit content on YouTube that might be unsuitable for their children, even though it's not against YouTube's Community Guidelines.

When you opt in to Safety Mode, videos with mature content or that have been age restricted will not show up in video search, related videos, playlists, shows and movies.

Step 1

Go to safety preferences

Simply go to the bottom of any page on YouTubeTM and click the grey 'Safety' button to open the preference setting.

Step 2

Turn Safety Mode 'on' or 'off'

Choose to turn Safety Mode 'on' or 'off' and click on Save. If you turn it on and you have a YouTube/Google account, you can sign in to your account and lock Safety Mode so that no-one else can change the settings whenever YouTube is accessed from that browser.

4. Are the details we give away online making us more vulnerable to identity theft?

Hardly a day passes now without news of companies, governments and banks being hacked. Organised crime has been quick to take advantage of our increasing reliance on the cyber world and every one of us is at risk of becoming a target. In today's digital economy our personal information has fast become the new currency.

High profile data breaches in the news have made us all the more wary of our behaviour online and 64% of us are now more cautious about sharing our personal details with companies.

Despite this, identity fraud, phishing attacks and hacking are all on the rise. Phishing scams alone have increased 21% in the last year. But are we still giving away too much online?

Link: <http://www.itv.com/news/wales/2016-02-29/are-the-details-we-give-away-online-making-us-more-vulnerable-to-identity-theft/>

For more information about e safety :

- go to <http://www.blackpoolaspireacademy.co.uk>
- come into school and talk to a member of Student Services

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5. What is Kik and should your child be using it? April 2016

News that a 13-year-old girl, Nicole Madison Lovell, chatted with an 18-year-old man on Kik the night before he kidnapped and murdered her, however, has added urgency to the parental quest of understanding what kids are getting up to on their phones these days.

What is Kik, and why are kids so into it?

At first glance, Kik is just another free messaging app for smartphones. You log in, you pick a user name, and you send texts, selfies, and emojis to your friends.

But that's just the first level of the Kik experience, which is clearly designed with a teenage user in mind ("For Kik, youth are the primary focus," founder and CEO Ted Livingston wrote in 2014).

The app has a built-in web browser and all sorts of internal native apps, which means that once you arrive in Kik, there's very little reason to leave. You can play mobile games, make memes, watch videos, listen to music, and check out the funniest content on Reddit.

Does it encourage flirting?

Crucially, you can find and chat with total strangers on Kik. Two of the top five internal apps are Flirt!, which gives you a list of users in your age range to, well, flirt with, and Match & Chat, a Tinder-for-Kik that lets you swipe left or right on users and chat with the people who swipe right on you too.

While the ability to match people up with strangers for a conversation is nothing new (remember AOL chatrooms?), what's concerning to many parents and internet safety experts is that Kik is anonymous. You don't need to link your account to a phone number, and you don't need to use your real name.

On Kik, you can be whoever you want.

What should parents do?

"Yes, parents should be concerned about Kik," says Stephen Balkam, the founder and CEO of the Family Online Safety Institute, "but they shouldn't be terrified."

Balkam points to the anonymity allowed on Kik as a key reason for his concern.

"As a parent, I would be very wary of a child of mine using an anonymous messaging app," he says. "Anonymity is an important part of free speech and dissent, but for minors it causes problems."

Balkam suggests that Facebook Messenger is a safer alternative, since Facebook requires users to display their real names.

Link: <http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/feb/16/what-is-kik-app-online-anonymous-tech-nicole-madison-lovell>

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