



Online Safety Newsletter

March 2023

TikTok

You must be TikTok.
may not be view and strangers child is using appropriate on.



over 13 years of age to use
Some of the videos on TikTok appropriate for your child to there is also the risk of contacting your child. If your TikTok then make sure the security/privacy settings are

Account set up

By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private at the start and we would recommend keeping it as this. This means your child can approve follower requests. You can read more about the other settings available (such as switching off comments and switching on restricted mode) here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings>

Inappropriate content, themes and challenges on TikTok

Whilst against TikTok's guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. We often see viral challenges on TikTok, some of which can be dangerous. If your child is using TikTok, chat to them regularly about what they are viewing and to ensure they know not to try challenges they see online.

Family Pairing

This allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode (limit the appearance of content that may not be appropriate) and screen time management. You can find out more here: <https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide/>

Blocking and Reporting

Ensure your child knows how to use the safety features available to them. You can find out more here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem>

Bullying on TikTok

This article makes suggestions on appropriate settings as well as how to deal with bullying: <https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en-sg/bullying-prevention/>

Tech Tips Live with Parent Zone

You can watch back this 13-minute broadcast from Parent Zone (originally broadcast Jan 2023) which discusses what you need to know if your child is using TikTok. It's an excellent overview including how algorithms work on social media. You can access it here: <https://parentzone.org.uk/tech-tips-live>



About Roblox

PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance label (icon shown right), this is because of the huge level of user generated content within Roblox. It is rated for 'Teens' on Google Play and 12+ on the App store.



You can either use Roblox to create games or play games that other users have created. **As a lot of the content is user generated, it may mean not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play. It is important to set up Parental controls appropriate to your child.**

What our jump scares?



Jump scares are often used in horror games on Roblox with the intention of scaring and frightening players, this could be through loud noises, frightening images or sudden movements. Some players may find jump scares frightening.

What Parental Controls are available?

Settings include:

- restricting chat
- setting spending limits and spending notifications
- enabling age-based experiences. If you enable Allowed Experiences, your child will only be able to join experiences that match or are below the age recommendations set. Age categories available are 9+, 13+ and all ages.
- view what your child is doing on Roblox, including recently played experiences, private message history and their friends.

You can find out more about the different settings available here:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/sections/4410604750996-Account-Settings>

Discussion Guides from Thorn

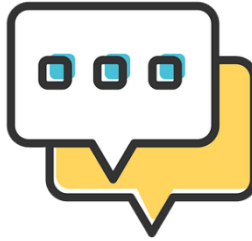
Thorn was co-founded by Ashton Kutcher and Demi Moore in 2012. It includes Thorn for Parents which contains a wide selection of discussion guides, designed to empower you to start conversations with your child. You can filter the guides by topic and age e.g., talk to your 9 year old about screen time or your 14 year old about the issue of resharing nudes. Each guide includes an introduction, how to start talking about the topic as well as an interactive conversation script based on your child's response.

You can find them here:

<https://parents.thorn.org/discussion-guides/>

titled 'Hanni and the Magic Window'. Aimed at children aged 3-7, the story is about speaking out and getting help if something goes wrong online. It is a terrific book to read at home with your child. Download a copy here:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/take-an-adventure-through-online-safety-with-our-new-book-hanni-and-the-magic-window/>



Barclay's Code Playground

Help your child to develop their understanding of coding by taking part in the fun activities or video sessions on Barclay's Code Playground:

<https://barclayscodeplayground.co.uk/parents-homepage-bdl/>