



Preventing Child Exploitation Update

News

Parental controls on Netflix

Netflix have introduced a number of useful parental controls within the settings function to help parents filter out inappropriate content and reduce the likelihood of children accessing a viewing unsuitable material.

These controls include:

- The ability to set up PIN protected profiles
- New filters to enable restriction of specific titles
- The ability to disable auto play
- An option to look at the viewing history of anyone with access to a Netflix account

Childnet have produced a great guide on each of these controls and how they can be set up. Please click the following link to access the advice:

[Netflix Parental controls advice - Childnet](#)

Resources

Loudmouth offer free lesson plans and educational resources during the pandemic

Loudmouth are a leading Education and training company that provides a range of programmes and formats that can support safeguarding and relationship education within schools and communities.

They are currently offering all of their lesson plans and resources for free to support schools, students and parents/carers during the COVID 19 pandemic. These are normally only available to schools who book Loudmouth. They have a huge range of

resources that cover issues including CSE, Consent, Sex and Relationships, Feelings and Emotions and Relationship abuse. There are resources for both primary and secondary age children.

To access the resources you can log in to the Lesson Plan Portal with the following details:

Username: **resources@loudmouth.co.uk**

Password: **loudmouth2020**

Please share these log in details with anyone in your networks who you feel may benefit from having access to these resources.

“The Mix” charity

The Mix is a leading charity that offers free support for young people under 25. They can receive information and support from the charity via their online community, on social media, through the free, confidential helpline or their counselling service.

Their website offers advice and information on numerous issues that affect young people such as sex and relationships, mental health, drink and drugs, housing, work and education and money concerns.

This can be a useful signposting opportunity for any young people you may be in contact with.

Visit www.themix.org for further information

Social media app information



MeWe app

It has come to my attention that a recent incident of grooming involved the use of the “MeWe” app.

According to the app’s website “MeWe Network is an exciting social networking application that provides a wide range of options for friendly communication and mass deliverance of information in posts, groups, and public chats.”

www.mewe.com

It's intended to be a competitor for well used social networking apps such as Facebook and Instagram. Images can be shared but disappear after a short space of time, similar to Snapchat.

As with most apps of a similar nature, there are risks as it is yet another platform where children may come into contact with unsafe people. www.smartsocial.com have highlighted some other concerns, particularly around the child's digital footprint:

- "It encourages users to be their "uncensored selves" which doesn't promote shining online
- Having the ability to create separate profiles to share with different people means the app doesn't promote authenticity (being inauthentic can hurt your child's digital footprint)
- Many users have reported receiving a lot of inappropriate and mature spam content from bots on the app
- Content is unmoderated on the app which makes it a breeding ground for bullying behavior and negativity."

<https://smartsocial.com/mewe-app-parent-guide>

To help safeguard children when using apps such as this it is important that parents and carers:

- Encourage children to ask permission to download a new app (the recommended age for MeWe is 13+).
- Talk to children about the apps they are using and encourage them to show what the app does and how it's used.
- Remind children about their digital footprint and the importance of "think before you post" i.e. not posting inappropriate or unkind comments or photos. Discuss the impact of their digital footprint on their future career choices as well as their personal safety.
- Encourage children to always talk to their parents or a trusted adult if they are concerned about anything they see or are sent.

I hope you find the information useful,

Ruth Fittes - Early Intervention and Prevention Unit