

## Outline of session

## How children use technology

Risks online

## Dealing with these risks

## What can we do?



# Today's Workshop

## • CEOP

Child Exploitation and Online Protection command. It is a command of the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA) and is tasked to bring online child sex offenders to the UK courts.

• NSPCC

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Internetmatters.org

A not-for-profit organisation that helps keep children safe in the digital world. They are backed by the UK's most prominent internet industry players, BT, Sky, TalkTalk and Virgin Media, and are supported by leading child online safety experts, so "we're able to offer you the best advice and information available on tackling e-safety issues".

## 1. How children use technology

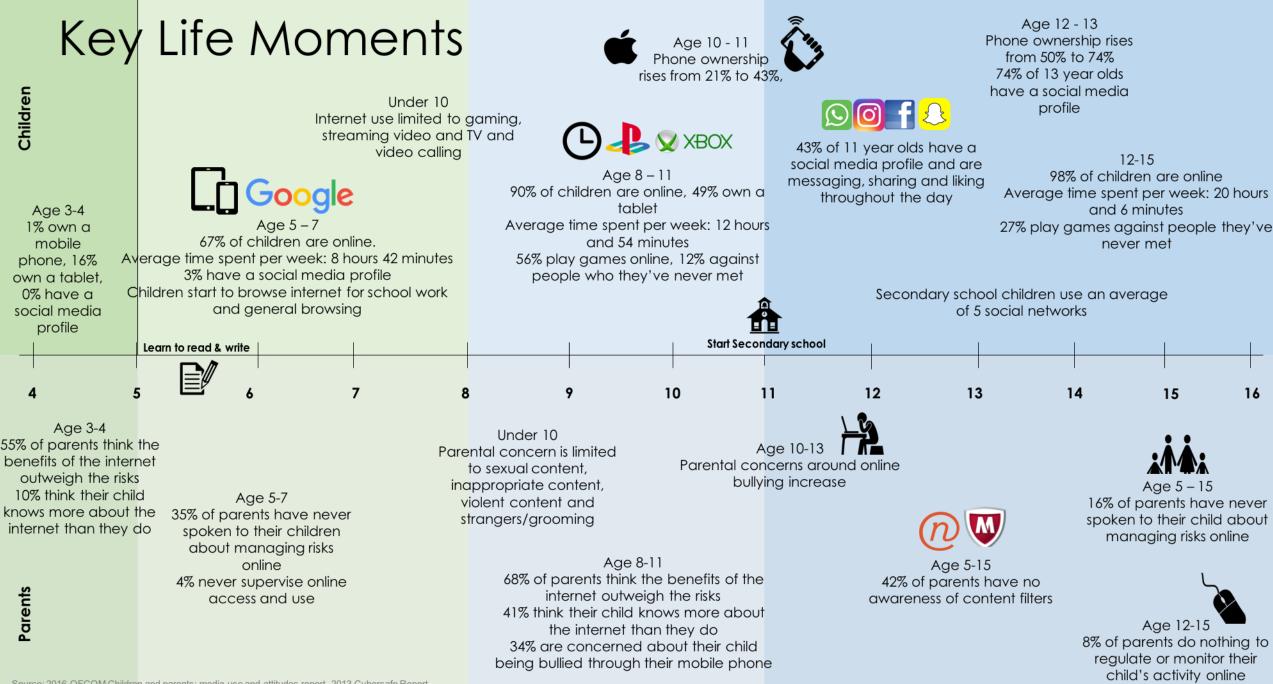


## What do children do online

As children get older, the things they do change

- 53% of 3-4 year olds have access to tablets
- 74% of 12-15 year olds have social networking profiles
- 12-15 year olds who watch TV and YouTube, are more likely to watch YouTube than TV

(Ofcom 2015)



Source: 2016 OFCOM Children and parents: media use and attitudes report, 2013 Cybersafe Report

## How children use technology

NSPCC and CEOP conducted a child survey of what they thought are most popular apps and games.

WhatsApp	Messenger	Call of Duty	Snapchat	Tumblr
Facebook	Instagram	Minecraft	YouTube	Twitter

What do you think they said?

## How children use technology

## Here's what they said:

1. Snapchat	2. Instagram	3. Facebook	4. YouTube	5. WhatsApp
6. Minecraft	7. Messenger	8. Tumblr	9. Call of Duty	10. Twitter

## How did you fare?



# An app or website you don't know? www.net-aware.org.uk

## Your guide to the social networks your kids use

Stay up to date and keep your child safe in today's digital world

>

Search for a site, game or app to find out more

Q (e.g. Facebook)

Explore other networks

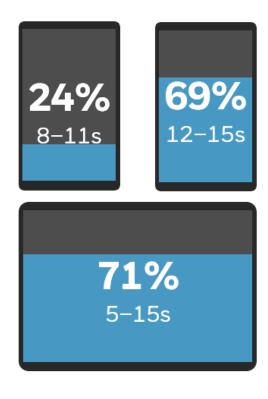
All networks A-Z Most popular

## Children go mobile

Since 2005, mobile phones have overtaken the TV as the device 12-15 year olds would miss the most (Ofcom 2015)

71% of 5-15 year olds own their own tablets - they no longer share them with their parents

This change brings new challenges in protecting children when online. It's no longer adequate to say that devices should be kept and used only in shared, open spaces, as children can access the internet from anywhere using their phone.



## Social networks

**21%** of 8-11, **71%** of 12-15 year olds in UK have a social networking profile (Ofcom 2015)

Most social networks require children to be 13 or above, especially the popular ones such as Instragram, Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat.

Many children use these social networks before they of 13 as they are able to sign up without the knowledge of their parents. In other instances, parents are fully aware and support their children in using them.

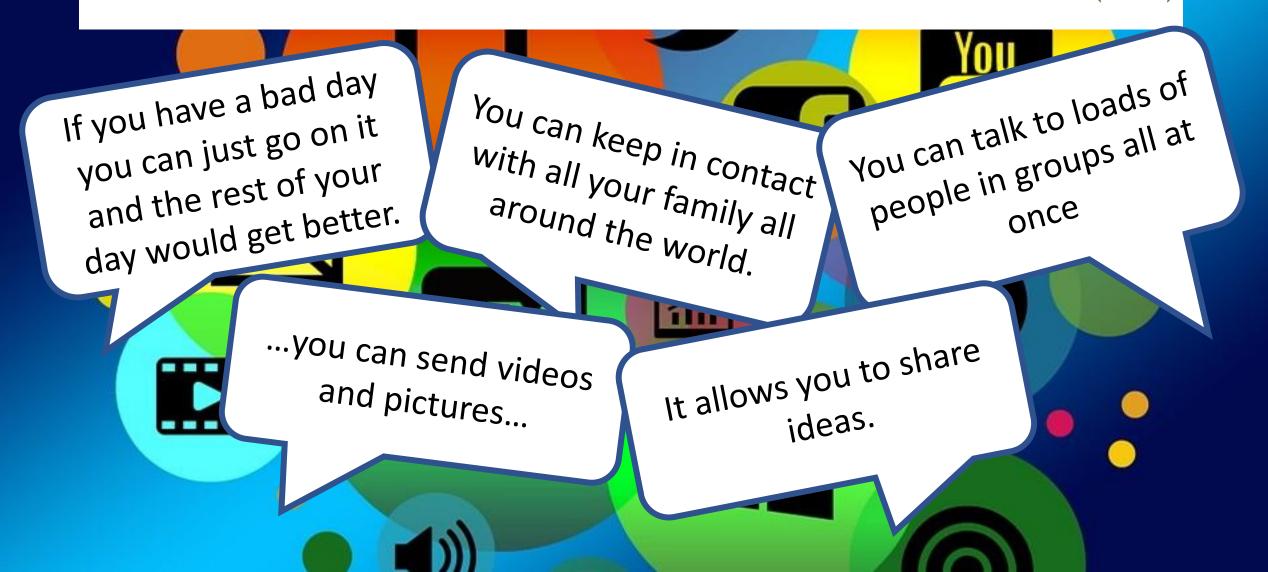
## **CEOP and NSPCC say...**

For many children and young people, their online world is as important as their offline world: the two have converged.

Their lives play out online just as much as they do offline. They form relationships, chat with friends, share music, share pictures, play games and watch movies.



# What children say about the internet...



## Before we go on...

What are the benefits of children

using the Internet?



## Some benefits of the internet

Online games can enhance teamwork and creativity Add to the child's store of knowledge

Households with computers perform better academically

Improve both visual intelligence and hand-eye coordination

Research shows the outcomes for children are better if they benefit from connected technology

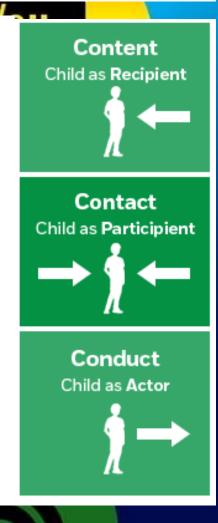
EU Kids Online 2013

## 2. Risks online



## Risks online - the 3Cs

- 1. Content risks the child might come across age-inappropriate content online.
- 2. Contact risks the child actively engages in their online world, which might expose them to risks.
- **3.** Conduct risks the child acting inappropriately themselves.



## What type of risk?

# Place the example of possible risks your child could be involved with in the correct column

# **Content - child as recipient**



Content risks include children being exposed to:

- 🗸 sexual content or imagery
- 🗸 violent content
- extreme content or opinion
- biased and skewed content
- commercial content, such as inappropriate advertising, spam or being asked for sponsorship

They can come across these by accident or they can deliberately seek them out.

# **Contact - child as participient**



Children are somehow engaging in their online world and there is a transaction. They might be sharing information about themselves, which can expose them to increased risks.

Contact risks can include children:

- 🗸 being bullied online or stalked by another person
- having their personal information harvested and shared
- meeting strangers or being groomed and coerced into sharing sexual content
- being exposed to behaviour that, for example, advocates self-harm.

# **Conduct - child as actor**



Children as actors in the online world means they are proactively engaging in certain risky behaviour

Conduct risks include children:

 creating or sharing sexually explicit material, such as explicit pictures or films of themselves

- 🗸 bullying or harassing another person
- downloading music or films illegally

creating biased or misleading information and advice



# **Risks online**

The level of exposure to risks and the likelihood of harm taking place will depend on the children's:

- Levels of access to online technologies
- Levels of education
- Age and maturity
- Levels of protective support from responsible adults.

The risks children encounter will change as they mature and develop, and their levels of use and access also change

## 3. Dealing with these risks



# Risk is not harm - positive action can limit risk becoming harmful

#### 5 tips for parents:



Understand the risks 2

Communicate regularly 3 Keep the risks in proportion

4

Agree helpful mediation strategies



Develop coping strategies that foster resilience

> internet matters.org

## **Building resilience online**

Resilience is the ability to deal with negative experiences in any context. Risk and resilience are interrelated, as resilience can only develop through exposure to risk and stressful events.

Fatalistic/passive or passive coping

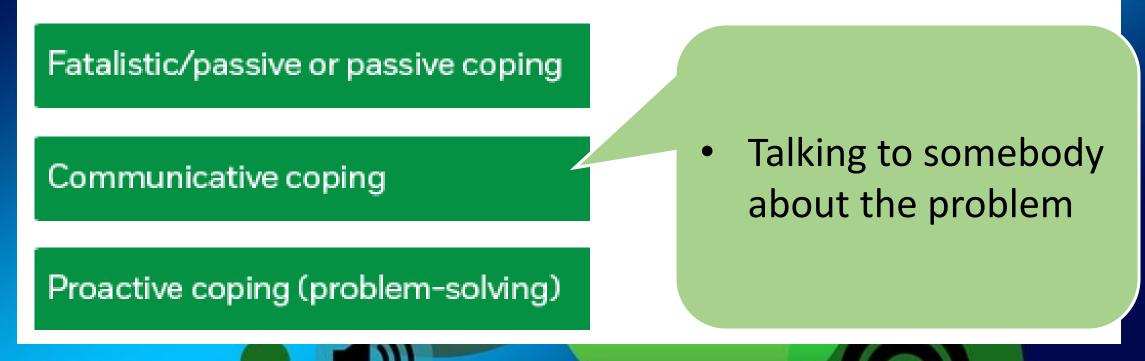
#### Communicative coping

Proactive coping (problem-solving)

- Hoping the problem will go away by itself
- Stop using the internet for a while

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Fatalistic/passive or passive coping

#### Communicative coping

Try to fix the problem
 e.g. delete unwelcome messages, block sender

Proactive coping (problem-solving)

# **Building resilience**

Most children use a combination of coping strategies, with **talking to somebody** (communicative coping) generally being the most popular across all risks.



## 4. What can we do?



# Help with communicating

Tips for a meaningful conversation

Start conversations when your children

won't be embarrassed, for example in the car going home from school

• Ask them for advice on how to do something online and use this as a conversation starter

 Make sure they know they can come to you if they're upset by something they've seen online Be sensitive and praise them when they share their online experiences with you
If your child comes to you with an issue,

- If your child comes to you with an issue, stay calm and listen without judging them
- Talk about online grooming as you would stranger danger and explain that people they meet online might not be who they say they are
- Ask them about things online which might make them uncomfortable

# **Content - child as recipient**



## What to talk about

• They can come to you if they see anything that upsets them

## Top tips / tools to use

- Parental controls on home broadband
- Content lock on mobile networks
- Safe search on Google (& other browsers) & YouTube; child friendly search engines

# **Contact - child as participient**

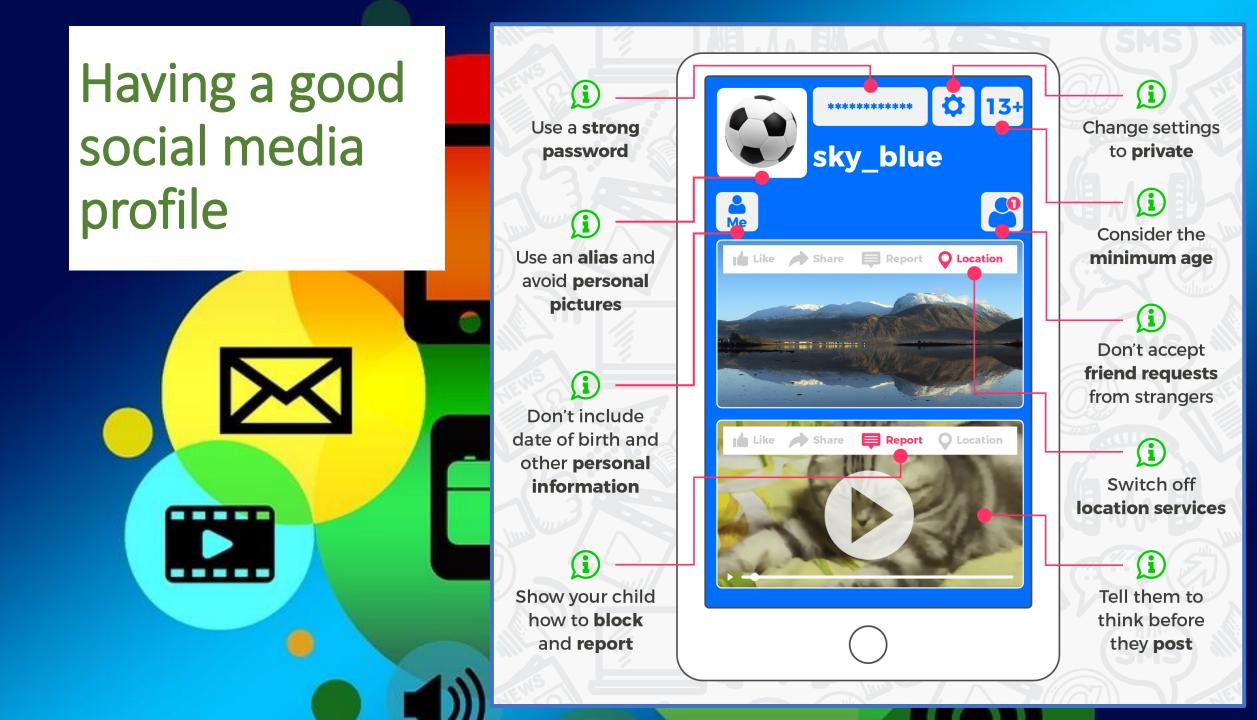
#### What to talk about

- What makes a good social media profile
- Sometimes people hide behind fake profiles for dishonest reasons
- Agree how they will respond to requests from people they don't know in real life

Contact

Child as Participient

- Never ever to meet up with anyone they don't know in real life **Top tips / tools to use**
- Set up safe social media profiles that don't share personal information
- Turn off geo location settings on devices
- Use the strongest privacy settings on social media
- Learn how to report / block/ mute



# Cyber bullying

#### TALK ABOUT IT

Find the right time to approach your child if you think they're being bullied

#### DON'T STOP THEM GOING ONLINE

0 0 0

3

Taking away their devices or restricting usage might make things worse and make your child feel more isolated

#### DON'T RETALIATE

Advise your child not to respond to abusive messages and leave conversations if they feel uncomfortable

#### KEEP THE EVIDENCE

Take screenshots in case you need them later as proof of what's happened

#### KNOW WHEN TO TAKE IT FURTHER

In extreme cases and if you feel your child is in danger then consider informing the police



#### SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Be calm and considered and tell them how you'll help them get through it

#### HELP THEM TO DEAL WITH IT

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If it's among schoolfriends, advise them to tell the person how it made them feel and ask to take any comments or pictures down BLOCK THE BULLIES

If the messages are repeated block and report the sender to the social network or gaming platform

#### DON'T DEAL WITH IT ALONE

Talk to friends for support and if necessary your child's school who will have an anti-bullying policy

#### DON'T STOP WHEN THE BULLYING STOPS

Keep talking to your child and consider whether counselling could help them deal with the consequences

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# **Conduct - child as actor**



### What to talk about

- Talk to a trusted adult if they experience anything upsetting online
- Think carefully about sharing images of others
- Be responsible online, remembering they are creating their own digital footprint

## Top tips / tools to use

- Report inappropriate posts/content to the social media providers
- Think carefully about using monitoring apps that identify inappropriate behaviour



# Don't forget we are role models

Your children will be watching the way you use technology and they will copy. Make sure there is some consistency in how you **role model** good behaviour

Turn off notifications on apps to avoid that constant 'ping'

Buy an alarm clock so you don't have devices in the bedrooms

Keep phone on silent in your pocket or bag when you pick the kids from school

No phones at the table rule or no phones between 6 and 7 rule

Family tech free days!

2

3

4

5

internet matters.org

## With this in mind...

There are tactics you can put in place to help manage *their* screen time....

- 1. Talk together about the time spent online
- 2. Agree on appropriate length of time they can use their device
- 3. Get the whole family to unplug & create screen free zones
- 4. Use technology / apps to help manage screen time (e.g. Forest app)

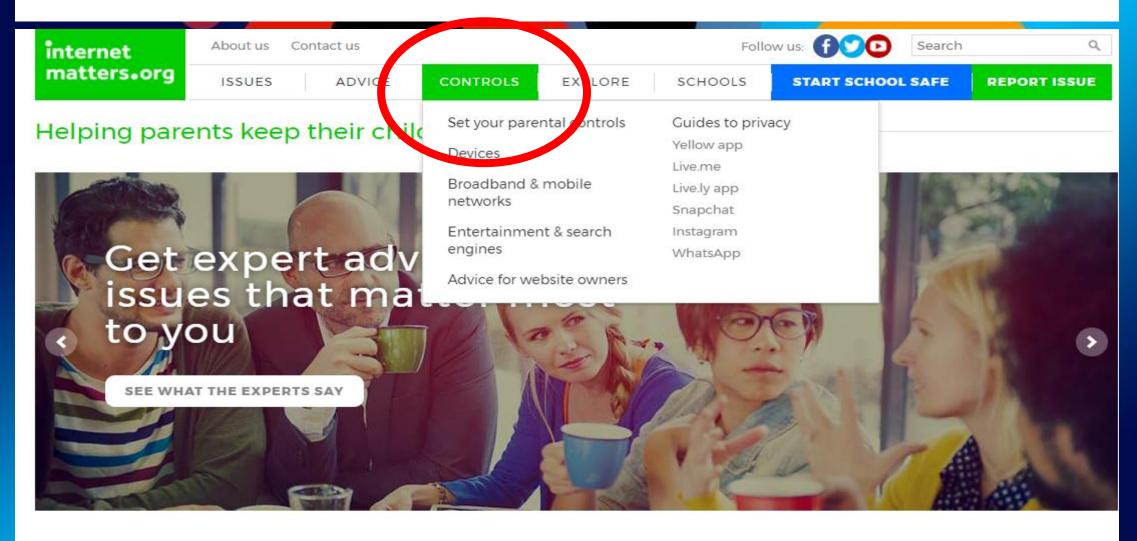
internet matters.org



# 3 things to teach your child



## Changing settings at home - intermatters.org



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## Very useful websites

CEOP

https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/

Thinkuknow – CEOP for children <a href="https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/">https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/</a>

Internet matters <u>www.internetmatters.org</u>

Net aware – app/programme identifier <u>www.net-aware.org.uk</u>

## I hope you have found this useful...

## Feel free to take any of the resources.

