



WhatsApp Update

WhatsApp will be releasing the following new Privacy features:

1. Leave Groups

Silently: you will be able to exit a group privately so instead of the whole group being notified, only the admins will be.

2. Choose Who Can See When You're Online: WhatsApp are introducing the ability to select who can and can't see when you're online.

3. Screenshot Blocking for View Once Messages

You can read more about these new features here:

<https://blog.whatsapp.com/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/>



Highfields Primary School Online Safety Newsletter

DECEMBER 2022

Parental controls

Get ready for the festive season with these reminders about setting parental controls.



Games/consoles

First, check the PEGI rating of any new games to ensure that your child is old enough to be playing them. PEGI provides age classifications for games and **considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty.** It is important to note that PEGI do not take into consideration the chat facilities within games. If a game does allow your child to communicate with others then you can adjust the settings so they are appropriate to your child - or disable it completely.

Secondly, for any consoles (new and old), it is important to set up appropriate controls such as restricting spending limits and again managing who they can communicate with. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for each device:

Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/community/for-everyone/responsible-gaming>

PS5: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>

Nintendo Switch: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>

Tablets/Smart phones

As well as setting up parental controls on the device itself, remember to check any apps your child would like on their device. Is it suitable for their age? Review all settings and privacy options for each app. For the devices themselves use the available settings to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Follow the links below to find out more:

iPhones/iPads: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>

Google Play: <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

Internet Matters ideas for staying safe online at Christmas.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/childrens-online-safety-this-festive-season/#toolkit>