



Mail on Friday

Redhill Primary Academy and Nursery

Weekly Newsletter

Email us at: parentcontact@redhillprimary.co.uk

End of Term

Please remember that the last day of term is Thursday 21st July 2022.

YouTube

Dear Parents and Carers

It has come to our attention that some of our youngest children in school have viewed disturbing, horror-style videos at home via YouTube.

What are the risks?

There are multiple risks that can arise from children and young people being exposed to frightening content before they are prepared.

- Added anxiety and stress** – Children and young people are still growing and learning. They may not be at a level of emotional maturity that would be able to process frightening content, even if it is intentional. Horror games could hamper that growth by creating unnecessary anxiety and stress.
- Intrusive thoughts** – Everyone has the 'thing that goes bump in the night.' If children play this game or watch it, the Boogeyman could easily be replaced with characters like Huggy Wuggy. This could cause children to lose focus or sleep and could interrupt family rest cycles.
- New fears** – The manipulation of child-friendly items into threatening characters exploits the sense of security a child would feel around these things. They may suddenly be terrified of something that had never been a worry before.

We strongly encourage all parents to be vigilant and supervise carefully when children are using tablets or other electronic devices. It is advised that all children use YouTube Kids and that parents make use of the safety features available on all apps. Please find below further information that could support you in this - these guides are also available on our school website under 'Safeguarding and SEND - Online Safety.'

All National Online Safety believes in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

8 things parents need to know about YOUTUBE KIDS

1. SETTING UP
To get the YouTube Kids app you need to download it from the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store. Once you've downloaded the app, you'll need to create a Google account for your child. You can do this by following the prompts in the app. Once you've created the account, you can set up the app for your child. You can also set up the app for a family member.

2. USING THE APP
Once you've set up the app, you can start using it. The app is designed to be easy to use for children. You can search for videos, watch videos, and interact with videos. You can also set up the app for a family member.

3. ADVERTISEMENTS
As with television adverts, it's good to talk to children about how adverts work and help them to recognise them. In any family, remember pointing out the primary videos, added content and paid adverts and explaining to your child. It's important to talk to children about advertising in any form. You can also set up the app for a family member.

4. SELECTING GREAT CONTENT
One of the best features on YouTube Kids is the ability to select content. You can choose the type of content you want to see. You can also set up the app for a family member.

5. VIEWING TIME
You can set a viewing time for your child. This means that the app will only allow your child to watch videos for a set amount of time. You can also set up the app for a family member.

6. RESTRICTIONS
You can set up restrictions for your child. This means that the app will only allow your child to watch videos that are appropriate for their age. You can also set up the app for a family member.

7. WATCHING TOGETHER
You can watch videos with your child. This means that you can see what your child is watching. You can also set up the app for a family member.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS
The app will recommend videos to your child. You can also set up the app for a family member.

Meet our expert
Andy Robertson is a parent of three children and a specialist in child protection. He is the author of the book 'Child Protection: A Practical Guide for Parents and Carers'.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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YouTube

Tips To Protect Your Child

APPLY 'RESTRICTED MODE'
Restricted Mode is a feature on YouTube that helps to filter out inappropriate content from your children. It uses YouTube's own automated system & looks at what other users say in the comments on videos. Parents can also set up Restricted Mode on their own devices. It can be shared further.

CHANGE WHO CAN SEE VIDEOS
You can change who can view your child's content in the settings. Options include Public, Unlisted or Private. Private is only available to people you share it with & cannot be shared or limited available to people you share it with & can be shared further.

BLOCK CONCERNING USERS
If you're worried about a user, you can block them. This means that they can't see your videos or comment on yours. You can also report them to YouTube.

CUSTOMISE THEIR EXPERIENCE
Inform & control what your child watches using features like Family Link. You can also set up the app for a family member.

CREATE A 'FAMILY' GOOGLE ACCOUNT
Create a Google account for your child. This means that you can manage their account and see what they are doing. You can also set up the app for a family member.

GET YOUR OWN ACCOUNT
You can create your own account. This means that you can manage your account and see what you are doing. You can also set up the app for a family member.

BE MINDFUL OF CYBERBULLYING
You can report cyberbullying to YouTube. This means that you can get help if you are being bullied. You can also set up the app for a family member.

GET TO KNOW POPULAR CHANNELS
You can follow popular channels. This means that you can see what they are doing. You can also set up the app for a family member.

DON'T ASSUME YOUR CHILD IS TOO YOUNG
YouTube and YouTube Kids are quickly becoming the most popular video sharing sites for children. Parents should be aware of the risks of these sites. You can also set up the app for a family member.

Meet our expert
Paul Bath is a writer with over 10 years experience in child protection. He is the author of the book 'Child Protection: A Practical Guide for Parents and Carers'.

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