Keeping your child safe online

This week = How to keep your child

safe (From NSPCC Netaware)

Talk to your child regularly about what games, apps and sites they're using. Let them know they can come to you or another trusted adult (this could be a relative, friend or member of school staff) if they're worried or upset about anything they've seen.

Explore the game and look at the Net Aware site for age rating information on the most popular sites, apps and games. Net aware also tells you what young people and parents think the minimum age for that platform should be. Also look at the 'Games rating authority' or a breakdown of the content you can expect to see in different games, helping you make an informed decision.

Agree; make sure your child knows how to report or block other users. Help them apply privacy settings, where possible so that they control who can see their profile.

Manage: Check out the game yourself to see if it lets you play with or against other players and if you can set it to 'private'. They may be able to talk to other players through the game itself, the console network e.g. X Box live, or external chat sites and forums. _Turn on parental controls_ on gaming consoles to help prevent children from downloading games that aren't appropriate for their age or from seeing harmful material.

Please please ensure you monitor your child's internet use. If your child has a mobile phone tell the provider that the phone is for a young person and they can put filters on as can your internet provider – ask them to help you keep your children safe!