There is less than a month to go to the 'Big Day'! Christmas is a time when many children and families may be looking forward to new technology. May I just take this opportunity to remind you that, with all the excitement on new presents, that you take a moment to consider privacy and other settings (such as blocking in-app purchases) on new devices. You may also take the opportunity to check other older devices and to talk to your children about online safety. Here are a few steps for how to set up some of the more popular devices. If you have other devices, first try looking under the Settings section and look for words such as 'privacy', 'restrictions' or 'parental controls'.

I trust this is a useful reminder to 'Stay Smart' and I wish you a happy and safe Christmas.

Xbox One

1. To manage your app privacy settings and data collected from your console:

- Press the Xbox button to open the guide.
- Select System > Settings > General > Online safety & family.
- Select Privacy & online safety > App privacy.
- From the list, select the checkboxes next to the data for which you're giving permission to be collected.
- Note When you give apps permission on a console, it's only saved on that console. If you use multiple consoles, make sure you give your apps permission on all your consoles.

2. For a child account, an adult member of the family needs to sign in to their Microsoft account to change the child's privacy settings.

- Sign in to the console with the adult's Microsoft account.
- Go to System > Settings > Account > Family settings > Manage family members.
- Select the child account you'd like to manage, and then go to **Privacy & online** safety > App privacy to give permission.
- Note If multiple gamers are signed in, apps can only access data for which everyone has given permission.

3. For further information, please go to <u>https://support.microsoft.com/en-</u> ph/help/4482922/xbox-one-online-safety-and-privacy-settings-for-parents-and-kids

Nintendo Switch

- Head to the 'System Settings' option on the main screen, either in handheld or docked mode
- Scroll down the left-hand bar to the Parental Controls option and click (or tap if you are using the touchscreen). Click on the Parental Control Settings, the highlighted box on the right-hand side of the screen.
- This will open a page that offers two options: you can either set simple parental controls by restricting the gameplay by age, so only games of a certain rating can be played, or you can set more complex parental controls through a dedicated smartphone app for iPhone or Android.
- If you choose to restrict gameplay on the console itself, you can set the age limits of different features, such as the games and whether the user can post screengrabs taken on the Switch on social networks. Communication with other players can also be restricted.

- It is possible to link your Nintendo account with a child's Nintendo Switch profile, so they can purchase games from the online Nintendo eShop. If you have that option installed, you can also restrict those. The instructions are on the Switch in that case.
- Restrict levels available to choose are Teen, Child, Young Child or you can customise the options yourself.
- You can also set options through the 'Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app' (<u>https://www.nintendo.com/switch/family-fun/parental-controls/</u>) for iPhone and Android. Download it from your relevant app store on your smartphone and follow the instructions on screen.
- You will need to link it to your Nintendo Account and the Switch through a code that is sent. It is very simple to follow.
- Once linked, you can not only use the app to set the content restrictions as per the options on the console itself, you can also use it to set the amount of play time a child can have. The console will not let them past the period determined.
- This can also be set per profile as you can set-up different profiles on the Nintendo Switch itself. This is done when the console is first used. Alternatively, you can add new "Users" in the 'System Settings' under the "User" tab.

Playstation 4

- Log into the system using you PlayStation Network account and from the Main Menu press up on the d-pad and then right until you have highlighted the "Settings" icon. Press the X button to open "Settings".
- Within the "Settings" menu scroll down and select "Parental Controls/Family Management".
- Select "PS4 System Restrictions". If prompted for a PIN the system default PIN is "0000".
- Within "PS4" System Restrictions" change the System Restriction Passcode and block the "New User Creation...", this will stop anyone from creating new users on the console that will not have Parental Restrictions. "Default Parental Controls" will create restrictions on the entire console, if you want restrictions only for your child go to step 5.
- Highlight "Family Management" and press the X button. Then Sign in using your PlayStation Network account. This account is your parent account and we will be creating an account for your child that is linked to your account allowing you to monitor and set restrictions for them.
- Select "Set Up Now". If you have not verified the email address with your account you will need to do this now. Select "Already Verified" and then "Continue".
- Select "Create User". Now enter the details of your child and select "Next". Finally, select "Accept".
- You will now be on the "Parental Controls" screen where you can select the maximum age rating of games/DVD's/Blu-Rays that your child can access, as well as restrictions on PlayStation VR, and use of the Internet Browser. Select "Confirm".
- If you would like to allow your child to join the PlayStation network select "Allow" (The PlayStation Network is needed to play online games as well as download demos and buy new games from the PlayStation Store).

- You can now place restrictions on your child's use of the PlayStation Network. Select the restrictions you would like to apply and then select "Confirm", "OK", and then on the next screen "Accept".
- You have now created your child's sub-account and they will be linked to your account as a family member. You can alter the restrictions placed on your child's account at any time via your account.

Android phone (e.g. Samsung)

- When setting up your phone you will need to activate a Google account on the handset. You can use your own Google account or create/use the account of your child. You will be enabling a PIN on the handset that you will be using to set parental controls.
- Launch the Google "Play Store" application on your handset.
- Tap the menu button.
- From the pop out menu scroll down and tap "Settings".
- In the "Settings" section scroll down and tap on "Parental controls".
- Enable parental controls by tapping on the radio button.
- You will be now prompted to create a PIN.
- You can now set restrictions for "Apps & games", "Films", "TV", "Magazines" and "Music" all of which are accessed via the Play Store.
- Now we will enable your handset to require the Google account password when making purchases. Return to the "Settings" menu within the "Play Store" app.
- Scroll down and select "Require authentication for purchases".
- On the "Require authentication" pop-up you can select to require your Google account password for all purchases, open a 30-minute window where all purchases are allowed after inputting your password, or disable authentication entirely.
- Finally, we will now block the device from being able to install applications from services other than the "Play store" where we have placed the restrictions. From your devices "home Screen" swipe down from the top of the screen and then select the settings cog.
- From the "SETTINGS" menu scroll down to "Lock screen and security".
- Scroll down to the section names "Unknown sources" and ensure that the toggle switch is set to off.

iPhone/iPad

- Using Screen Time to set content privacy restrictions and manage in-app purchases
- Go to Settings and tap Screen Time.
- Tap Continue, then choose "This is My [Device]" or "This is My Child's [Device]."
- If it's a shared device and you'd like to ensure settings are not changed then tap Use Screen Time Passcode.
- Then re-enter the passcode to confirm. If it's a child's device, you can follow prompts until you get to Parent Passcode and enter a passcode. Re-enter to confirm.
- Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions. If asked, enter your passcode, then you can turn on Content & Privacy. Once you have set up your code, in this section, you can manage inapp purchase, access to apps and automatically filter website content to limit access to adult content in Safari and apps on your device.
- Managing in-app purchases in Screen Time

- Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases. Choose a setting and set to Don't Allow.
- Please note you can also change your password settings for additional purchases from the iTunes & App Store or Book Store. Follow the first 3 steps, then choose Always Require or Don't Require.