



THAMESIDE  
SCHOOL

# 6 Tips for helping children and young people enjoy technology safely

## 1 Research the device

Before buying a device for a young person, it's helpful for parents/carers to understand what the device does and whether it's suitable for their child. Some devices include great safety features to help keep children safe online.



## 2 Check out what they are viewing

Common Sense Media provides reviews of games, apps and platforms to support decisions about what is suitable for each age group (films, tv, games, apps).

## 3 Setting up new devices in advance

Setting up the device before giving it to a child is a great way to ensure they start off safely. After researching the device, parents/carers can charge it, explore the features and activate safety settings and parental controls.



## 4 Create a family agreement

A Family Agreement can help set boundaries and expectations for how devices are used at home, including limiting screentime. You can find an example here:

[Family Agreement Example](#)

## 5 Start the conversation

Please speak with your children about online safety before the Christmas break. It's essential they know what to do if they come across something unfamiliar, worrying or upsetting online—and who they can talk to. Children are already familiar with having this conversation in school.



## 6 Enjoy!

Spend time as a family enjoying games together. Technology is really fun and when used safely, can be enjoyed by the whole family!