



# Online Safety Newsletter

September 2023

## Back to school photos

With the school year and new milestone, of our child about the post online, then rules:

- Don't child that show or recognisable live that can to find out their
- Never name.
- Are there pictures you you have parent/carer to
- Would your child be happy for your comment/photo about them to be online – remember what might be 'cute' now may be embarrassing to them in the future.
- Make sure appropriate privacy settings are on.



excitement of a new your child reaching a many of us share photos online without thinking associated risks. If you try following these basic

post any photos of your their school logo/name places by where they make it easy for people location.

include your child's full

any other children in the share online? If yes, do permission from their upload it?

Alternatively, you could just share photos with those who you really want to share the photo with (grandparents etc.) via WhatsApp or iMessage rather than via social media.

### Further information

CEOP have published this article which includes advice on sharing photos of your child online:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Sharing-pictures-of-your-children/>

## more parental supervision

atures for some of their products. Firstly, they on to Messenger (users must be 13+), which your child interacts with. Also, Meta have teens to set time limits on Facebook (users l supervision features on Instagram (users must

[2023/06/parental-supervision-and-teen-time-](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/2023/06/parental-supervision-and-teen-time-)

# Threads (13+)

Threads was launched by Meta (creators of Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) in July and is similar in design to Twitter. As with Twitter, users can share text posts (with images and videos) and then other users can respond to create a thread. You need to have an Instagram account to login to Threads and **you must be at least 13 years old to create an Instagram account.**



For everyone 13 – 17 years old (in the UK), their account will automatically be set as private when they join Threads. As with Instagram, users can choose specific words to filter out of replies as well as hide comments that may be offensive. Users can also unfollow, block and report a profile. Any accounts that you have blocked on Instagram will automatically be blocked on Threads as well. Users can also change their settings on Threads so other users are unable to mention them in replies.

If you have supervision set up on Instagram for your child (aged 13 – 17) then it will automatically be set up for Threads and the same settings will be applied, such as time limits and scheduled breaks. You can find out more here: <https://help.instagram.com/658522825492278>

Threads is still being developed so new functions will be added but currently you are unable to direct (private) message other users.

You need to be aware that your child may come across content that is not appropriate for your child. If your child is using this app, then make sure they know how to use the reporting/blocking facilities, that appropriate privacy/safety settings are applied and they know to speak to a trusted adult should they need to.

## Further information

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/instagram-threads-a-guide-for-young-people-and-parents/>

# Roblox: new checklist

PEGI rate Roblox with a 'Parental Guidance' label (icon shown right), this is because of the huge level of user generated content within Roblox. It is rated for 'Teens' on Google Play and 12+ on the App store.



You can either use Roblox to create games or play games that other users have created. **As a lot of the content is user generated, it may mean not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play. It is important to set up Parental controls appropriate to your child.**

## **New Roblox Checklist**

The 2023 Roblox Checklist created by SWGfL and the UK Safer Internet Centre in partnership with Roblox is now available to download here: <https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/new-roblox-checklist-available/>

## Does your child have speech, language and communication needs?

Parent Zone understand that talking about life online with a young person who has speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) makes it difficult, so they have created a selection of visual and spoken resources to help you. You can find out more here:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/TalkTech>