A straightforward guide to protecting your children from online hate, extremism, and fake news









The pandemic has meant that children are spending more time than ever before learning and socialising online. Parents are juggling new technology alongside working and navigating the risks children face online. This interactive guide focuses on the risks that online hate, extremism, and fake news pose and how parents and carers can minimize those risks.



A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes.

Mark Twain



This guide has information, links and resources to help you:

Understand the risks and issues.

- Know where to get help.
- Find resources.
- Develop practical strategies. Start conversations.
- Build your child's digital resilience.

Extremists use the internet and social media to spread their ideology, hate, fake news, and

conspiracy theories. They actively target, exploit and groom children and young people.

Risks and Tactics

so utilise these opportunities to exploit and recruit. They frequently do this by exploiting our emotions, deeply held beliefs, and values and are

They know young people are using the internet much more, quite often by themselves, and

increasingly using the social isolation, anxiety, and fear that many children are experiencing because of the pandemic.

A common approach they use is to spread misinformation to **generate anger** and **outrage**. Teaching our children not to **fall for this trick** is one of the most important things we can do to protect them from grooming by extremists.

They make up quotes





includes memes, making alterations to photos, videos, and documents and using them out of context.

Frequently used tactics

and social media posts for popular public figures. Especially ones that children and young people look up to and follow online. Their aim is to draw children into conversations and encourage them to share misinformation and hate.





a genuine local issue or concern and use it to spread lies, fear and hate about the group they're targeting.



enjoy doing online. Talk about what they think isn't so good about being online and how to make it better. Keep talking as your child grows up and becomes more independent online. Find out what's their plan for when things go wrong or get them

down. Consider having a **no blame rule**, so that they'll talk to

you when things do go wrong. If they're worried about being

the children and young people in their lives about what they

told off or having devices confiscated they may decide to keep things to themselves and small issues could become big ones. Support, ideas and resources Click on the topics below to learn more about how to keep your child

The more a

stranger knows

about your child, the easier it is to groom them and gain trust. Only share with trusted friends and family.



safe and support their wellbeing online. Learn how to identify misinformation, talk to children about hate speech and spot the

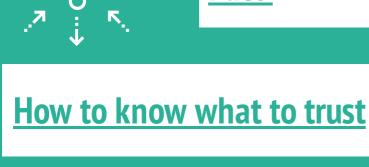
signs they could be being groomed by extremists or other online

predators.

young people. Parents can find answers to common questions and resources to

how to talk to children about hate and extremism and where to seek help.

help protect their child from being groomed by extremists as well as ideas about



Fact

This guide from the News Literacy

Project is great place to start.

Know how to fact check and have a link to a

reliable fact checking site on your devices.



Conspiracy theories have grown significantly in the past year they have been fuelled by the confusing and unsettling nature of the pandemic and have resulted

Conspiracy Theories

why they are dangerous.

acts. They can also be deeply disturbing and unsettling for children and young people who come across them accidentally online. The video in this link expalins

Common Sense Media This website has the latest research, tips, and tools on what really keeps children safe online. Which privacy settings should you use? What are the ins and outs of parental controls? Get tips on everything from the basics, such as smart

usernames, to the big stuff, such as appropriate sharing. Plus lots of resources

and strategies to look after your childs wellbeing online. What are the pro's and

con's of Roblox, TikTok, Instagram or how to talk to teens about online preditors.

in people being drawn into extremists groups, committing violent and criminal

Online Digital Resilience **Radicalisation**

Fake News

Quiz

The Fake News

Is someone you know becoming a stranger?



Part of the Prevent Education Officer Network