



HATTON ACADEMIES TRUST E-SAFETY GUIDANCE

Your termly newsletter explaining some of our concerns surrounding the use of the internet and other technology.

Over the years the trust have become more aware of a number of changes in the digital world. Children are getting smarter and the amount of knowledge available on the world wide web has grown. Information is available at the push of a button.

Whilst knowledge can increase the academic progress of students, we are also aware of many dangers which can diminish the progress made.

This new termly newsletter aims to educate you and make you aware of some of the recent risks.

The human spirit must prevail over technology – Albert Einstein

Which apps may be worrying for your child. What can you do about them? How should you react?

Who can you report the dangers to? How can you take a print screen?

What techniques are being used? How can you educator your child?



Applications to look out for

%Calculator, Calculator#



This application on the child's phone will look like it's a regular calculator. When the user types in a password then they can hide inappropriate photos and videos which they may have sent to others.

Where is it found?

Google Store

Apple Store



Calculator# Hide Photos Videos 17+
Hide and protect your secrets
NewSoftwares.net
#84 in Utilities
★★★★☆ 4.5 • 1.6K Ratings
Free - Offers In-App Purchases

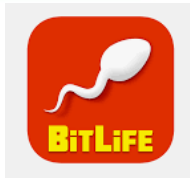
How to spot it / Discussions to have

- Have a look and see if there is more than one calculator on the phone.
- If there are two versions of the application, ask your child if they could unlock the other version of the application.
- Make sure that you have regular discussions about the age of consent and the pictures that your children may have on their phone.
- Look out for apps that you're not used to seeing on a regular basis.



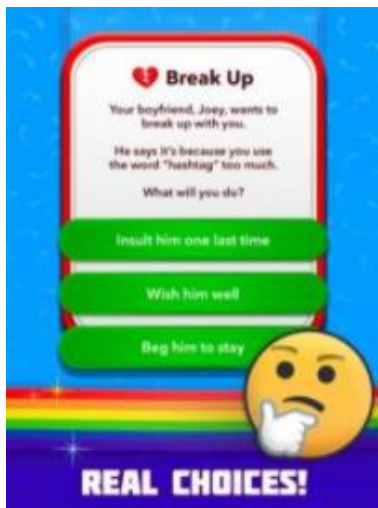
Common Application

BitLife Game



A simulation game of 'real life'. The idea of the game is to be a human and go through 'experiences'. Unfortunately, some of the choices that the game gives you include 'assault' and some explicit activities.

Example



Steps to keep your child safe

- Ask them to remove this game from their phone.
- Talk to them about some of the things that the game may have asked them to do.
- Talk to them about the consequences of carrying out some of the activities from the game in real life.
- Make sure that you discuss similar apps and make sure that your child is aware of all of the content.
- Encourage your child to discuss things they see online and to ask questions.



Common Issues around group chats

Group Chats



There are multiple applications that children are using at the moment. Some examples include 'WhatsApp', 'Instagram', 'Facebook' and 'Snap Chat'. Whilst these apps have their own problems, the main concern we're noticing at the moment is the use of the group chat features.

What are the problems

When you go into the settings of a group chat, you can see **everyone's phone number**.

If the phone number isn't on your child's phone as a name (if it appears as a phone number) – The likelihood is that your child does not know the person.

How you can help your child

- Explain to your child, whenever they're added to a group chat that the other people in the group will get their phone number.
- This means that some of these people could be adults or people that other students have met online.
- This could be dangerous and it means that someone could randomly have their phone number and start trying to gain their trust.
- Explain to your child that they need to be 16 to have apps such as WhatsApp.
- If your child is of legal age, sit with them and ask them to remove themselves from groups whenever you see phone numbers which are not recognizable.



Viral Challenges

Most applications



Tiktok and other applications often ask children to do viral challenges. Some of these challenges can be fun such as the ice bucket challenge. Some of these can be dares but some of them can be **dangerous**.

What are the problems

Danger – Some people have died falling off buildings or getting hit by cars. Some of them can put into dangerous situations.

Peer Pressure – They feel like they need to do it because their friends have.

Newspapers can promote the challenge and this will bring it back to people's attention and make children start trying them again.

Steps to keep your child safe

Explain to your child that challenges seem popular at the time but often they tend to tail off and there is no reward or benefit from doing dangerous activities.

They come into a number of categories, have a chat about these challenges: -

- **Dance** – Make sure that they're not dancing in a provocative manner as this will invite in potential predators to start conversations.
- **Food** – Make sure that they're not eating anything unsafe
- **Physical** – Some activities that try to get you to lift things or try things with your strength which can hurt you
- **Frightening** – Scare challenges such as ghost challenges can affect your child emotionally
- **Dangerous** – Some of these can put your child in a situation which could get them seriously injured.

Make time to discuss challenges with your child and avoid the temptation to feel upset they've already tried them. Help them understand the risk of future challenges.



Useful information for parents

Google Family Link

Google Family Link is a new service which was released in March. It is designed to help parents keep track of what a child under the age of 13 is doing on an Android device. It ranges from app installation to the amount of time spent online.

Which platform is it available on?

Unfortunately, it only monitors Android devices at the moment.

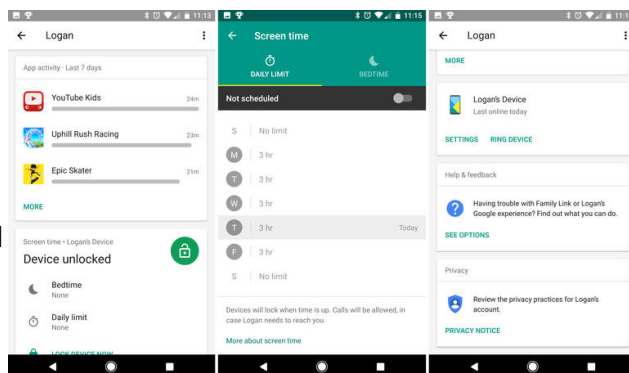
If you have an Apple phone, you can still monitor your child's android device. It is just unfortunate that you can't monitor other devices.

Where can I get it?

You can get Google family link by going to:

https://families.google.com/intl/en_uk/familylink/

This will allow you to read up on the application and look at setting this up so that you can monitor your child's phone usage.



Careers in Cyber Security

Looking ahead

If you have a child that is currently interested in learning more about cyber security, here are a couple of careers that might be of interest to them and a university which might support them in the future. They could look at taking a keen interest in ICT or Computer Science at G.C.S.E or A-Level.

University

- University of Warrick
- Coventry University

Course

- [BSc Cyber Security](#) - "This degree combines theory and practice, with a strong technical focus to develop your understanding of how cyber systems are intended to function and how they might be abused."
- [Cyber Security BSc](#) – "Our Cyber Security BSc (Hons) course is designed to produce high quality graduates who can contribute effectively in one of the highest growing sectors in the UK."

Reporting Incidents

If you are concerned that your child may have been involved in any incidents which may have a negative impact on their well-being, please contact your DSL officer at your school.

Alternatively, please report any incidents to: **CEOP.GOV.UK** and Childline by calling – **0800 1111**