



Safeguarding & SEND

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm pleased to share this term's edition of our Safeguarding & SEND Newsletter which includes information about the move to the EHC Hub Platform, LPCF's Week of SEND offer, E-Safety advice, a message regarding E-Scooters, useful links to Mental Health and Wellbeing Services and information on the 'Big Ambition' survey.

As always please feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss anything relating to SEND or Safeguarding, the best way to contact me is by email on Jodie.wilkes@greenfields-cit.co.uk

May I take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful festive season and I look forward to seeing the pupils and yourselves in the new year.

Best Wishes,

Jodie

EHC Hub

As some of already know from attending recent annual review meetings, Lincolnshire are moving all EHC Plans on to the online hub. This is designed to improved accessibility and transparency for all. Meetings can be still be held in person or online. The main differences you will see will be the way in which you receive invites and how your views are gathered, both of which will be requested through the system.

If you haven't already accessed the system, you will be sent a registration email over the coming months. Please note this link is only valid for 24 hours so please activate it as soon as possible. If you do have any issues with access please let me know and I will do my best to resolve this with your child's SEND caseworker. Attached to this newsletter is some useful information around accessing EHC plans on the hub and contributing to reviews.

LPCFs Week of SEND 2024

Join Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum from Monday 29th January to Friday 2nd February 2024 for their virtual "Week of SEND". Organisations will be showcasing their help and support in 10 minute slots during the week. For details of who is attending see the "Week of SEND" page: [Info Week of SEND \(lincspcf.org.uk\)](https://lincspcf.org.uk)

Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum run a range of workshops throughout the year and membership is free. You can register your interest at the following link: [LPCF Sign Up \(lincspcf.org.uk\)](https://lincspcf.org.uk)

Thinking of buying an e-scooter?

Lincolnshire Police is reminding parents and guardians that e-scooters are not legal to use on public pavements or roads. Inspector Jason Baxter said, "Our approach to this will be to engage and educate. When that fails, we will enforce. We know that e-scooters are probably on Christmas lists this year, and may be tempting in the January sales, we just want people to think twice before buying a product that's so limited in where you can legally use it." Whilst our aim is to engage and educate, penalties for using an e-scooter illegally can include seizure of the e-scooter. In Lincolnshire, the only place you can legally use an e-scooter is on private land, with the permission of the land owner.

E-Safety

We are sure new electronic devices are on most Christmas lists this year. Over the page are some top tips for setting up parental controls on new devices.

In school we use the 'Clear' message to support pupils to act if they see/receive something distressing online.

CLEAR stands for:

C - Calm - Stay Calm

L - Lid - Put the lid/ screen down

E - Explain - to an adult the web search/words used

A - Ask - an adult will give you time to talk and ask details

R - Reassure & Report - an adult will check you're ok and report any concerns

Mental Health and Wellbeing Services

The festive period can put additional pressures on mental health and wellbeing, additional support including self-help information, a directory of services and self-referral pathways can be found online at [Home :: Lincolnshire Young Minds \(lpft.nhs.uk\)](https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/youngminds)

You may also be interested in joining the free parent/carer workshops run by My Family Coach - the next session is on 08.02.24 and focusses on supporting children who feel anxious. Register here: [My Family Coach Supporting My Anxious Child - TeamTeach Knowledge Hub](https://www.myfamilycoach.org.uk)

The Big Ambition

'The Big Ambition' provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell policy makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election. Children and parents can complete the survey here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition It only takes 5-10 minutes and is open until the 19th of January. Let's make sure that the children and young people of Lincolnshire are represented in the results. Dame Rachel De Souza - Children's Commissioner for England

Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At my.account.sony.com, create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

WINDOWS 11 PCs

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

SMART TVs

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



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