



Parents' and Carers' Helpsheet



Play Like Share is a series of three animated films for 8-10 year olds about staying safe online, produced by **Thinkuknow**, the National Crime Agency's CEOP Command's online safety education programme.

Watch the films at: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/playlikeshare

About *Play Like Share*

Play Like Share follows the adventures of Alfie, Ellie and Sam as they form a band and enter their school's Battle of the Bands contest, taking on the mean but 'cool' Popcorn Wizards as they go. The three friends learn that while the internet can help, they need to use it wisely and safely.

The aim of the films is to help 8-10 year olds learn how to stay safe online. In particular, the films and activities teach them to spot the early signs of manipulative, pressurising and threatening behaviour by people they might meet online, and develops their confidence to respond safely and get help.

How you can use *Play Like Share* to help keep your child safe online

Watch *Play Like Share* with your child, and start a conversation about the internet and staying safe. There are three episodes so you could do this over a few days.

Start with positives, finding out as much as you can about what your child does online and what it means to them.

You could:

- Ask your child to show you their favourite websites, apps and social media services and what they do on them. Listen and show interest. You could also encourage them to teach you the basics of the site or app.
- Ask them if anything ever bothers or worries them about going online. You could use examples of events from the films and ask if they've ever heard of something similar happening. Talk in general about what children can do to stay safe online.
- Use examples from *Play Like Share* to start a conversation about online 'friends' or 'followers'. Ask them about who they chat to online, and whether they know and trust them 'in real life'.
- Talk about the importance of privacy settings and how they can help your child stay in control of what they share with others. Together, look at the privacy settings for the services they use, encourage them to only share things with people they know and trust in real life.
- Using examples from *Play Like Share*, talk to your child about what it might be appropriate or inappropriate to share online – this includes photos, videos, comments and personal information.
- Talk to your child about how their online actions can affect others. Remind them to consider how someone else might feel before they post or share something.
- Ensure your child understands that if anything ever happens online which worries or upsets them, they should always tell you.
- Explain that you would never blame them for anything that might happen online, and you will always give them calm and non-judgemental support.
- Make online safety an on-going conversation in your house and involve the rest of the family in the conversation too.

Further information:

- Thinkuknow's parents/carers website has practical information and advice to help keep your children safe online: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents
- Thinkuknow's 8-10 website has information for your child to help keep them safe online: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10

If you or your child have any concerns:

- If you are concerned with about something that has happened to your child or another child online, you can report this directly to CEOP: www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre
- The NSPCC helpline is available to any adult who has a concern about a child and would like to talk anonymously to trained professional: www.nspcc.org.uk/services-and-resources/nspcc-helpline or call on 0808 800 5000.
- Childline is a free, private and confidential service for any child who feels worried about anything and would like to talk to someone: www.childline.org.uk or call on 0800 1111.

If you believe that any child is at immediate risk from harm, please call the police on 999 straight away.

