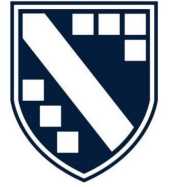




# Contextual Safeguarding- KS1 July Edition



This month's update comes from National Online Safety.



YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of YouTube, offering a colourful and easy-to-navigate environment which is suitable for young children.

Although YouTube Kids is obviously intended to be (and mainly succeeds in being) an extremely child-friendly platform, it has still raised concerns over its advertising policy as well as inappropriate content seeping through the curation process.

In the guide, you'll find tips such as disabling the search option, restricting viewing time and monitoring the watch history.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### REMOVE ADVERTISEMENTS

Like YouTube, adverts on YouTube Kids are also quite pervasive. If you decide you don't want your child being exposed to adverts, you can subscribe to YouTube Premium which will remove adverts on YouTube Kids. However, it's worth remembering that this doesn't block adverts that content creators decide to make as part of their content, and children are still able to access channels from branded fast food or toy companies.

### BE WARY OF UNSUITABLE CONTENT

YouTube Kids has a far lower chance of showing unsuitable material than YouTube, but there are still reports of malicious users deliberately uploading inappropriate content. It's important that your child feels able to talk to you if they were ever exposed to upsetting content in the future. It's also safest to report inappropriate videos: tap the three dots in the corner of the video and select 'Report'.

### DISABLE SEARCH OPTION

YouTube Kids allows you to disable the search feature, which you may find useful in preventing your child from unintentionally finding age-inappropriate content. Doing this will also give you more control over what your child is watching. It's also worth noting that setting an age limit will ensure that your child is only exposed to recommended videos that are deemed suitable for their age group.

### RESTRICT VIEWING TIME

The YouTube Kids app provides you with the option of setting up a timer to monitor and limit your child's daily usage, which automatically stops the video when it reaches the set time. It may be best to make use of this feature to prevent screen addiction - which can potentially lead to children staying up too late, affecting their mood and concentration the following day.

### MONITOR WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has also made it possible for parents and carers to see what their children are watching on the app by clicking on the 'Recommended' icon on the top right of the home screen. It may also be worth having a look at what your child has recently watched by clicking on their history tab. The red bar on the video shows how much of the video has been watched.

### WATCH TOGETHER

It's important to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for your child. This may require spending time finding channels and content that you and your child will enjoy and benefit from. Try introducing family sessions where you can share the most enjoyable videos that you and your child have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you and your child many new things to talk about with each other.