

ONLINE SAFETY NEWS

SPRING 2023.

LIVE STREAMING

Live streaming has become a popular feature of many apps and platforms. By understanding why it is popular and what your child may come across, parents and carers can help children have a more positive online experience.

There are several factors that can make watching or creating live streams potentially harmful for children and young people including:

Content

If they're watching other people's live streams, children could be exposed to age-inappropriate content, including sexual or violent content.

Offensive comments

If a young person's live stream is open to the public, viewers may be able to leave negative or inappropriate comments on feeds.

Inappropriate contact

There can be hundreds, potentially thousands, of people watching a live stream, including people who might be looking to hurt or exploit children and young people. In order to manipulate children, these people may attempt to trick them into engaging in sexual activity, flatter them with positive comments or gifts, or make threats to try to force them to do things they don't want to do.

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) has published a **short guide** with practical steps and conversation starters to help children stay safer while live streaming.



JESSIE AND FRIENDS : ONLINE SAFETY EDUCATION FOR 4-7 YEAR OLD CHILDREN

The CEOP Jessie and Friends website is designed for children aged between four and seven to explore at home with their parents/carers and features a series of **three animations** that follow the adventures of Jessie, Tia and Mo as they begin to navigate the online world, watching videos, sharing pictures and playing games. The key message throughout *Jessie and Friends* is that if a child is ever worried by anything online, they should tell a grown-up they trust, who will help them.

There is also a storybook for each episode, to help you and your child keep the conversation going.

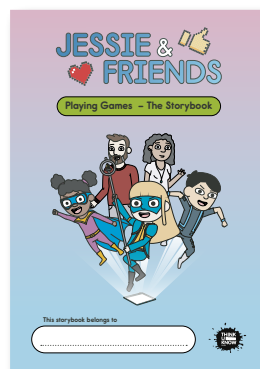
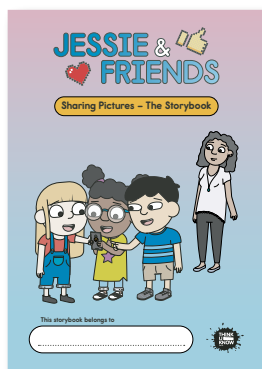
Read the storybooks together!

You can download each storybook below.

[Jessie & Friends: Watching Videos - The Storybook](#)

[Jessie & Friends: Sharing Pictures - The Storybook](#)

[Jessie & Friends: Playing Games - The Storybook](#)



REPORTING TO SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Most social media websites provide an option for users to report and request removal of 'content' such as videos, pictures, comments or profiles that might be upsetting.

It is important to remember that making a report doesn't mean the content will definitely be removed.

Most websites, including social media sites, have a set of rules, 'Terms of Use', which they expect people using their site to adhere to. Before requesting content removal, you or your child should check to see if any of the rules have been broken, websites will only take content down if this is the case.

The **Thinkyouknow website** has a comprehensive guide for parents and carers to help support removing harmful content. The site includes guidance for different social media platforms which links to their rules, their safety centre and details how to report an issue.

REPORT REMOVE

The report remove tool on the ChildLine website is for young people to get help removing a nude image or video of them shared removed from the Internet. There is a helpful video that explains how report remove can help.

[View video](#)



WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Lucy Faithfull Foundation

'A guide for parents of children and young people who have got into trouble online'

The guide has been created for parents and carers who find their child is engaged in worrying inappropriate or illegal behaviour online. The guide is designed to answer some of the immediate questions you may have after learning about something that is happening, or has happened, in your child's online life. It offers guidance on how to talk with your child about it and help prevent it happening again.

Parents can call The Lucy Faithful Foundation Helpline at any time on **0808 1000 900** and speak with experienced operators. All calls are completely anonymous.

CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT ONLINE / TECHNOLOGY-ASSISTED HARM

This guidance by The Marie Collins Foundation and Zoë Metcalfe, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire and the City of York, offers useful conversation openers and responses when talking to children about online harms. The guidance suggests age-appropriate ways of answering difficult questions and offers guidance on what to do if something has already happened.

'We are all vulnerable to grooming and the way to beat it is through open, honest and accepting communication, love and support. If you create positive communication patterns with your child, then you are in the best position to protect and prevent where possible, and support and recover in the event that harm occurs.'

The guidance is also available in **Ukrainian**

The information in the newsletter is given to help promote the safety of children and young people online.

Every care has been taken to ensure the information and any recommendations in the newsletter are accurate at the time of publishing. Schools must make their own judgements when sharing our recommendations with parents and carers and, where appropriate, always risk assess with their pupils and whole school community in mind.

This newsletter is brought to you by the HFL Education Wellbeing team as part of their online safety support for schools and settings in Hertfordshire. Contact the team at **wellbeing@hfleducation.org** or call **01438 544464**.

HFL Education is a provider of products and services to schools and educational settings. We believe that every young person, through access to a great education, should be able to realise their potential, regardless of where they live or their circumstances.