

Lanyon Building, Jennymount Business Park, North Derby St, Belfast BT15 3HN 028 9035 1135 nspcc.org.uk

Dear Colleague,

I hope you are well. I am writing to let you know that we have re-launched <u>Net Aware</u> today, and would love your support in promoting it.

What is Net Aware?

Net Aware is the NSPCC and O2's no-nonsense guide for parents on the most popular sites, apps and games that young people use. It equips parents and professionals with information about these sites, including the recommended age, the safety features and settings available and the types of risks that young people might encounter. This year's site is based on reviews of 40 sites from 2,059 young people and 2,049 parents.

We also have Net Aware news pages, which highlight current online safety developments, trends and tips. Visit the <u>Net Aware site</u>, or download the free Net Aware app, from the <u>App Store</u> or Google Play.

What have we found?

The information we collected gives us an incredible insight into young people's online lives. From the data, it is clear that far too many children and young people continue to see inappropriate content on the sites, apps and games that they are using. We were also shocked by the finding that nearly one in four young people have been contacted by adults they don't know; a third of these children were aged under 13.

We are encouraged by an increase in the number of young people who know how to use the safety features on the sites, apps and games they use, such as reporting content and changing privacy settings. Despite this, it remains vital that our information and support reaches more parents, enabling them to support their children, so they can enjoy the benefits of being online whilst staying safe.

How you can help

We would love your support in spreading the word about our award winning Net Aware tool. We want to reach as many parents as possible, to help them to keep their children safe online. We've included a suggested tweet below if you'd like to share them with your networks.

Download the no-nonsense #NetAware guide from @NSPCC and @O2 on the most popular sites, apps and games that young people use. Visit https://www.net-aware.org.uk/ to help keep children safe online.

Yours faithfully,

Neil Anderson,

NSPCC NI NATIONAL HEAD OF SERVICES

Peil Anderson