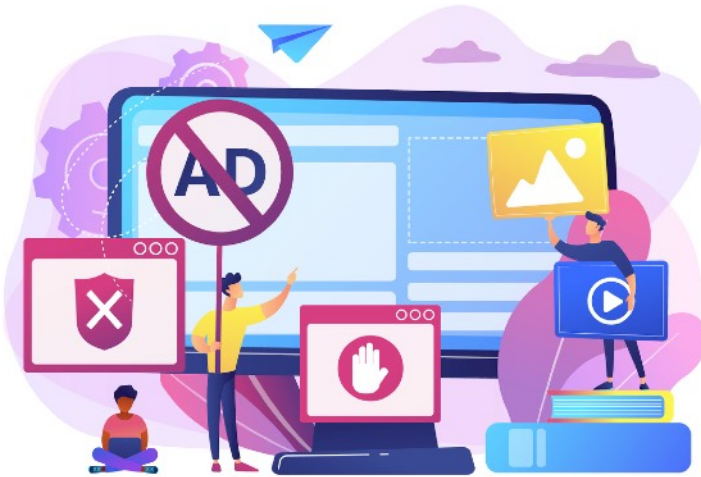


INTERNET FILTERING



All major Internet Service Providers (ISPs) offer family friendly filtering, so that you can block out inappropriate content on your home broadband.

Providers have different systems meaning that you can use specific categories which relate to adult entertainment content, gambling, substance misuse etc ensuring that these are blocked out when children are searching on their device.

Enabling Parental Controls

There is not a universal system for all providers to turn on parental controls for your broadband. However, as a rough guide, you can follow these instructions:

1. Log onto your broadband account
2. Find Security Settings
3. Locate Parent Controls
4. Toggle to look at what settings you want to put into place.

If you have any problems, you can visit your providers website for more information or contact their customer support. Remember that filtering is not 100% effective and you might find that your child can access some sites. Remember to talk to them about closing down the device, if they come across upsetting content, and to speak to a trusted adult immediately.

REMEMBER - Whilst internet filtering is a useful way of ensuring that your child does not come across inappropriate content, it is important that you regularly talk to your child about their digital life.

Bypassing Filters

It is important to know that not all platforms are covered by filtering your home broadband. Unfortunately, social media platforms and sites such as You Tube bypass the filtering systems. This means that you will have to look at their own specific systems to enable additional filtering. For instance, on the You Tube website, you will need to scroll to the bottom of the page and turn on 'Restricted Mode'. (this is also the same on the App). Both Apple (Screen Time) and Android (Google Link) have additional filtering which you can enable on a specific device.

Another area to be informed about, is the use of Virtual Private Networks (VPN) which can be purchased and bypass filtering systems. It is important that you are aware of whether your child has purchased or installed a VPN on their device.