



THE GOOD

Young people love YouTube! From creating videos about their own interests to accessing educational content, YouTube can be a great source of information and entertainment.



THE BAD

It's easy to access inappropriate content. Whilst some content is age restricted, YouTube relies on self-certification of age - and it's all too easy to fake a date of birth.

Cyber bullying can be rife. Anyone can leave a message if comments are turned on, and 'trolling' or inappropriate comments can be commonplace. This can impact self esteem and mental health. If your child is signed in to a YouTube account they can be contacted privately - including by people they don't know.

Content may not be appropriate - even if at first glance it appears it's fine. A recent uproar in the media highlighted 'adult' versions of Peppa Pig cartoons featuring violence, sex and drugs uploaded to YouTube, allegedly masquerading as child friendly. These videos have been available for many years, are unsuitable for children and yet do not fall within YouTube's age restrictions.



WHAT CAN I DO?

If you allow your child to upload videos to YouTube, consider doing it under a private or unlisted account so that only friends and family with the link can view them.

Utilise YouTube's restricted mode to avoid inappropriate content - but remember this isn't infallible.

Report any concerns about behaviour or content online at www.ceop.police.uk