



Focus On...

Stranger Danger

Some of you may remember the 'stranger danger' videos from the 1980's. Children were warned not to talk to people they did not know. The strangers were portrayed by men, so another important message for children is that a stranger could also be a woman or someone old or young.

However, it is also important to ensure children understand that not every interaction with a stranger can be dangerous. There may be times where a child may need to ask for help from a stranger such as becoming lost or having an accident. Adults must teach children how to stay safe. Children need to understand the difference between strangers who could hurt them and strangers who may help them.

Statistically, children are more at risk of abuse or abduction from someone they do know.

Stranger Danger Online

The internet can provide many opportunities for child grooming and many children are accessing the internet for long periods of time.

Research tells us that only 23% of children aged 3-4 play games online however it is good to start having conversations early about not speaking to strangers online and not telling anyone any personal information such as their name or where they live.

Parental controls can be activated, passwords can be set and search engines just for children can be downloaded.

[Teaching Your Child about Internet & Online Safety | NSPCC](#)

[Internet safety - Help for early years providers - GOV.UK \(education.gov.uk\)](#)

[Home - Clever Never Goes](#) Is the modern, child-friendly alternative to the out-dated and fundamentally flawed 'Stranger Danger' message. Rather than fearing the worst in everyone they don't know, Clever Never Goes helps children to recognise specific situations that are unsafe and gives them the tools to respond.