

ParentZone introduces Ollee!



Parent Zone recognises parents/carers are doing a great job in supporting their children's emotional wellbeing in these unprecedented times and believe parents/carers should have the best possible resources available and accessible.

What is Ollee?

Ollee is a virtual friend for children aged 8-11, created by Parent Zone and aims to make a difference to children's emotional wellbeing. Funded by **BBC Children in Need's A Million & Me initiative**, Ollee is designed to help parents do something they do naturally and as a matter of course: **support their children**.

How does Ollee work?

Ollee is designed to help children:

- reflect on how they feel
- process their experiences with support and help from their parents/carers
- offers advice about a range of subjects: **family, friends, school and more**



When is Ollee available?

It will be available, for free, from 26 October 2020
Visit ParentZone's website [here](#) and sign up for their bulletins.

Looking for support for older children?



The Mix provides essential support for under 25s. They provide a confidential helpline and counselling service.

Visit their website to find out more [here](#)

CommonSense Media PLUS

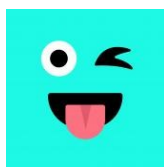
Register with CommonSense Media PLUS to gain access to:

- Personalising entertainment for your children
- Hand-picked advice from experts
- Filtering what's available on Amazon, Disney+, Netflix and more
- Identifying films that might not be 'appropriate'
- Help with getting your child their first mobile phone
- How screens might be affecting sleep

And much more!

Find out how [here](#) or simply join CommonSense Media's

Have you heard of WINK?



CommonSense Media's review states:

- Users technically have to be 17 to use the service
- There is no age-verification process
- This app is a poor choice for kids!

Childnet updates TikTok Guidance

What is TikTok?

- TikTok was released in 2018 and is hugely popular
- a social media app that allows young people to create and share their own short videos.
- TikTok now has over 500 million users globally

What are the features of TikTok?

Features include:

- Creating videos adding filters, captions, much more
- Making videos faster or slower Friends can create a duet even when they are not together.
- Friends are referred to as 'fans'
- Users aim to get as many followers as possible
- Once a TikTok account has over 1,000 followers, it is also possible to create and share live videos.

Find out more about TikTok's features [here](#)

Age requirements on TikTok

TikTok has a minimum age of **13 and requires a date of birth at the point of registering**.

What to be aware of

- TikTok is very popular among younger people
- TikTok has a large number of adult users
- Adults can create videos and **interact with accounts that aren't private**.
- TikTok profiles are automatically set to **Public**—they should be set to **Private** to protect your child if using TikTok

Check how to use TikTok and set up safely and make account **Private** [here](#)

Do you what a Loot Box is?

- Loot boxes are virtual items users can purchase in games with real money
- Loot boxes are under scrutiny because some people believe they mimic gambling and an inquiry by the Department for Culture, Media, and Sport called for the regulation of loot boxes under gambling law and ban their sale to children.

How to treat it: Have an honest conversation with your children about loot boxes. Make sure they know that:

- They are spending **real money**
- Games may be engineered to encourage them to purchase such items

If you feel it is appropriate, you can set up parental controls for purchases

The UK Safer Internet Centre has produced a guide explaining **11 things you should know about loot boxes**. We recommend taking a look if you want more information about this new feature of the online landscape

Need Help

For young people - depending on the age of your child there are a range of places they can go for help, younger children [call Childline \(0800 1111\)](#) for help and support
older children [The Mix](#) offer free and practical advice

Stay Safe!