

Digital Passport

For adults and carers

Helping children, young people and their carers make the most of technology through relationship building and communication

Introduction

This Digital Passport aims to help you have conversations with the children in your care about their online lives.

Use it to understand what they enjoy online and why, as part of getting to know each child. The Passport for adults and carers should hold the vital information you need about the devices the child will use, and any relevant facts about their internet or phone use.

The Digital Passport offers you a tool to start conversations about online life and the section for the child offers them a space to express their wishes and feelings.

The Passport is only one step towards fully integrating the child's digital life with the support they receive. It may help you find additional ways to respect, protect and fulfil children's rights in the digital world.



The Digital Passport has three parts which should all be used together:

1. Digital Passport: An introduction
2. Digital Passport: For adults and carers
3. Digital Passport: For children and young people

This Digital Passport may develop as the child grows and changes, or when circumstances change. Each change should be recorded with a version number and the date.

Version number:

Date changed:

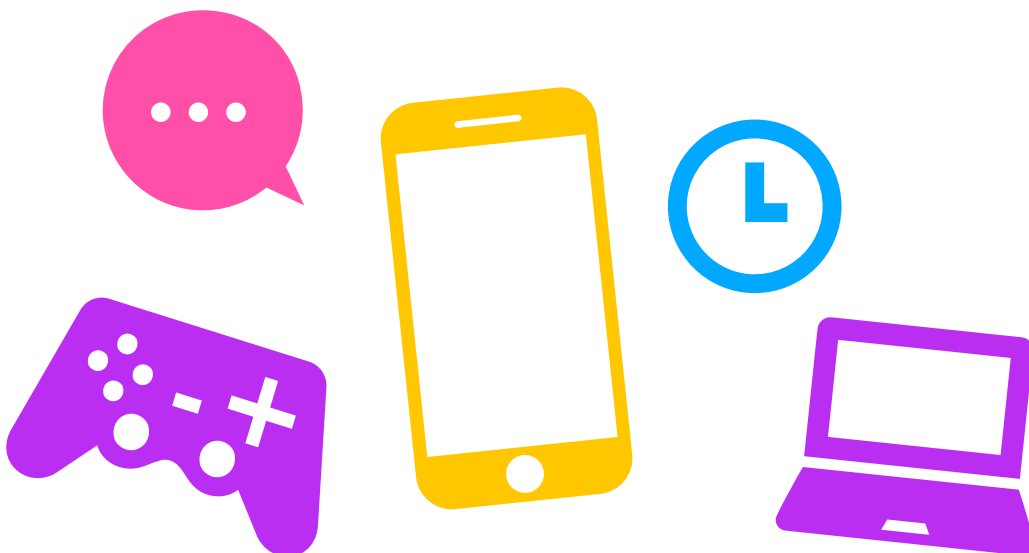
Where will I get the information?

In the 'Digital Passport: An introduction' document you will find suggestions on the information that should be provided by your social worker, fostering agency or other agencies working with the child, such as safeguarding, mental health or SENCOs.

In addition, you can add to this document what you learn from your ongoing conversations with the child. It includes some suggested questions which you may need to adjust for the age and ability of the child.

Expect it to take some time for children to share what many see as their private life. This is not information you should pressure a child to provide, but encourage through an ongoing chat where you can explore the opportunities of the digital world together.

Children will change and grow, and what they do online will change. As it is not a static situation, you can update this section of Passport at any time, noting the new version on the front page. The child can change or update their Passport section whenever they like.



Our Digital Passport

About us

Child's name:

Trusted adult's name:

Trusted adult's role:

Technical solutions to staying safe online

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antivirus software in place | <input type="checkbox"/> Hardware and software updated and plan for same on children's devices |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parental controls set up | <input type="checkbox"/> Data security provision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Router password changed | |

Devices

(Please see 'Digital Passport: An introduction' for information on what the social worker should find out and tell the foster carer)

What devices is the child bringing with them:

Devices (continued)

Who owns or provided the above devices (e.g. child, family or school)?

What I should know about the accounts/payments and set up of any of these:

I have checked the settings

Safeguarding

Is there any cause for concern that I should be aware of in this child's online life to date?

If yes, what is the nature of it?

Safeguarding (continued)

If yes, who is aware of this?

Where can I get support to address it well?

Contact arrangements – who is allowed to contact this child via technology?

What steps do I need to take about photos of this child appearing online or in school events? Can I take photos of this child with my family?

Are there safeguarding arrangements for remote learning or remote therapeutic sessions in place? Including:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The adult is authorised to have one to one sessions with this child. They are DBS checked, approved by a professional body. I have given permission | <input type="checkbox"/> Privacy is provided when necessary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The sessions are in an appropriate place in the home | <input type="checkbox"/> Other family members in the background or helping with learning |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate clothing is worn |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> The child is aware of what to do if connection is lost or something makes them feel uncomfortable |

Reviews

This Digital Passport has been taken into account in reviews/supervision with our social worker

Dates:

EHC Plan reviews:

What is going well in this child's digital life

Connections with friends and family:

New skills:

Open conversations about online life, including safety:

Child's co-operation with what has been agreed:

What is going well in this child's digital life (continued)

Have I been able to keep my side of the agreement?

Do we need changes or updates to the agreement?

My views about this child's digital life

Observations:

Achievements:

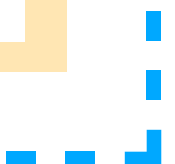


My views about this child's digital life (continued)

Existing concerns:

New concerns:

Looking forward, our goals are:



Question bank

Below are questions you can use and adapt when talking to a child about their digital life

What's the most fun thing you do on your phone/tablet/laptop?

Explore what the child enjoys, show an interest in their choices, who they follow and why. Questions can show genuine interest and curiosity. Use them to help forge the relationship.

- Can you show me how to play?
- Can you show me how you use that app?
- Do you livestream / game / use chat rooms?
- Have you thought about who can see your content? Why might that be important?
- Would you like to try this? (app or game)
- What music do you like?
- Do you ever find that some things on your phone make you feel good/calm/better?
- Have you used a mobile phone/tablet/computer?
- Can you teach me how to do ...?

What devices are you bringing with you?

- What are they? We need to make sure they work OK and are kept safe.
- Would you be happy for me to give you a phone to use?
- Did you know your school is going to give you a tablet/laptop to use?
- Can we learn to use the devices together?
- Can you help me set it up for you?
- What would you like as your screensaver image?
- How do you like your apps arranged?

What do you know about online safety?

- What do you think someone should do if...?
- What worries me most online is ... Can you think of how to deal with it?
- This looks fun but do you think some people are sometimes unkind?
- Do you think it is OK to ...?
- I think it is sometimes hard to tell when someone is who they say they are. What do you think?
- When we read or see stuff online, it can be confusing to know what is really true. Do you know any ways we can check? Who do you believe? Who would you trust? If you love a star or a vlogger, would you believe what they say?
- Do you know how to make your settings private? Why might that be important?
- Is there a digital skill you'd like to learn?
- Can I show you this new app for ...?

Sources of help for carers

Support Services

Contact

For UK parents/carers with a disabled child aged from birth to 25

- 📞 0808 808 3555
- ✉️ helpline@contact.org.uk
- 🔗 contact.org.uk/help-for-families/information-advice-services/get-in-touch/talk-to-us/

Family Lives

A confidential helpline service for families in England and Wales

- 📞 0808 800 2222
- ✉️ askus@familylives.org.uk
- 🔗 familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/confidential-helpline

Mind: Infoline

Mental health and wellbeing information for parents/carers

- 📞 0300 123 3393
- 🔗 mind.org.uk/information-support-for-children-and-young-people/information-for-parents

NSPCC Helpline

Expert advice and support from trained professionals

- 📞 0808 800 5000
- ✉️ help@nspcc.org.uk

Professionals Online Safety Helpline (POSH)

Advice on online safety issues for professionals working with or for children

- 📞 0344 381 4772
- ✉️ helpline@saferinternet.org.uk
- 🔗 saferinternet.org.uk/helpline/professionals-online-safety-helpline

Young Minds: Parent Helpline

Services to parents and carers who are concerned about their child's mental health

- 📞 0808 802 5544
- 🔗 youngminds.org.uk/find-help-for-parents

Information and advice

Anti-Bullying Alliance

Information about bullying for parents and carers

- 🔗 anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/advice-parents

Childnet

Advice for foster carers on supporting young people online

- 🔗 childnet.com/resources/foster-carers-and-adoptive-parents


Counselling Directory

A nationwide database of qualified counsellors and therapists

- 🔗 counselling-directory.org.uk/childrelatedissues.html

Hwb

A range of digital tools and resources provided by the Welsh Government

 hwb.gov.wales/zones/keeping-safe-online


Kidscape

Help with bullying

 kidscape.org.uk/advice/advice-for-parents-and-carers

Internet Matters

Expert digital safety guides for parents/carers of children with care experience

 internetmatters.org/inclusive-digital-safety/advice-for-parents-and-carers/supporting-children-in-care/

National Network of Parent Carer Forums C.I.C

For families living with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

 nnpf.org.uk

NSPCC

Support and tips to help keep children safe

 nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

Ofcom

Making Sense of Media – Media literacy research project publications

 ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/media-literacy-research/publications

Parent Zone

A hub of advice for families from Parent Zone's experts

 app.ollee.org.uk/#/welcome

 parents.parentzone.org.uk

Reporting harmful content

A national centre designed to assist everyone in reporting harmful content online

 reportharmfulcontent.com

Thinkuknow

Information and advice on keeping your child safe

 thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

