



# Online Safety Newsletter

## For parents & Careers

Welcome to the first Online Safety Newsletter for the 2021/2022 academic year. In this issue there will be information about an online streaming platform called Twitch which some of our students currently use. Also included is a guide about parental controls for Instagram.



## ParentZone



### Parental controls Guide

Internet matters have released a Guide on how to change the privacy settings on Instagram.

Click here for the link

[Parents guide](#)

internet  
matters.org



### What is Twitch?

Twitch is a gaming focussed live-streaming service, owned by Amazon where you can watch others play games live and listen to commentary as they play. Twitch does not have parental controls so here is a few risks and what parents and careers can do to help.

**Risk One: It is live and uncensored.**

When gamers are engrossed in their games it is very common to hear bad language of the twitch user running the stream but also other twitch users.

**What parents can do?**

Persistent troublesome users can be blocked and hurtful comments can be hidden from view using the little arrow to the right of the subscribe button.

**Risk Two: Potential costs.**

Twitch has a monthly subscription called Twitch Turbo and channels can be subscribed to for a charge. Users can also use real money to buy 'Twitch Bits'. There is an option to buy 25,000 twitch bits for £288.

**What can parents do?**

Restrict access to your credit/debit card and your PayPal account to avoid a big bill. It is possible to check their purchase history and see what they have spent. Explain to your child that they can watch and stream without paying any money.