



# APP INSIGHTS

DECEMBER 2019

## IMPORTANT DATES

- 1 - 7 Dec 19 Computer Science Week (Host an hour of code)
- 11 Feb 20 Safer Internet Day
- 20 Mar 20 National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

## PARENT TIPS

**Not sure how to start a conversation around cybersafety with your kids? Avoid the awkward start and try these to open up a dialogue:**

*What's your favourite app?*

*Why do you think we don't allow devices in the bedroom?*

*How many of your friends have public YouTube channels or TikTok accounts?*

*How do you know who you're chatting to is who they say they are, even on video?*

**No matter their age or internet experience it's never too late to have a conversation.**



### SMART SPEAKERS

#### Amazon Echo & Google Home

(utilising Alexa and Google Assist)



#### WHAT IS IT?

'Smart' home hubs have risen quickly in popularity around the world.

They use AI technology that recognises individual family's voices, learn and adapt to your preferences, styles and accent.

The speakers can control compatible smart devices (light bulbs, sprinkler systems, door bells, blinds, security systems etc) in and around your home with your voice.

They can also simply become a 'speaker for the internet' using voice control. For example, ask "Alexa, what's the weather tomorrow?" and "she" will answer.

Both require apps for setup and other controls.

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As with any internet enabled device, children and young people are at risk of exposure to inappropriate content, music, internet purchases and privacy issues.

Most companies know the value of collecting data - everything from your shopping lists to your music preferences are being stored (and data breaches do occur).

Being a speaker system, some parents have admitted to complacency around cybersafety as it's not a 'screen' (note: compatible screens can be added) however children and young people are still at risk.

There are also growing reports of lack of socialisation, conversation and basic research skills with children growing up demanding answers from a computer.