

# Parental Control & Internet Safety

Rev. 02

Parental control software allows you to set up boundaries and monitor surfing behaviour on a computer, whether it be the child's laptop or your home computer. These packages typically allow the monitoring and controlling of sites visited, online chatting, time spent on the computer and provide peace of mind that your child's internet activities remain safe.

While recent versions of Windows and MacOS have parental controls built-in, they are rather rudimentary and rely on websites volunteering their safety levels, which is far from commonplace.

## Windows Computers

There are many parental control software packages available for Windows machines. One popular and inexpensive one is **Verity**, which supports all versions of Windows including Windows 8 (but not Windows 8 RT):

<http://www.nchsoftware.com/childmonitoring/index.html>

Also see K9 Web Protection below.



## Apple Mac, iOS & Android Computers

A popular free parental package is **K9 Web Protection**, available for MacOS, iOS, Android and Windows devices:

<http://www1.k9webprotection.com/>

## 3G Enabled Phones & Tablets

It is vital that mobile smartphones, tablets and other 3G enabled devices are equally protected against dangerous surfing practices. This can be achieved with the service provider, for instance O2 have a **Parental Control** that you can request to be enabled. Other service providers will have a similar offering:

<http://www.o2.co.uk/help/everything-else/age-restricted-content-and-age-verification>

## Anti-Virus Protection

It is also absolutely essential that Windows and MacOS machines have working anti-virus software for full protection from drive-by malware collected from undesirable websites. We recommend the free **Microsoft Security Essentials** for Windows machines (Windows 8/8.1/10 has **Defender** built-in) and the free **Sophos Anti-Virus for Mac Home Edition** for Apple Macs. *We will not allow machines onto our network unless they have valid anti-virus software.*

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-gb/windows/security-essentials-download>

<http://www.sophos.com/en-us/products/free-tools/sophos-antivirus-for-mac-home-edition.aspx>